

COMPUTER APPLICATION SKILLS REQUIRED FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT AMONG BUSINESS EDUCATION STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITIES FOR FUTURE BUSINESSES

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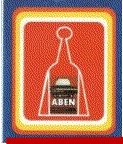
Abstract

The study sought to determine the computer application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in public universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design. The study was guided by three research questions and three null hypotheses tested at 0.05 level of significance. Population of the study comprised of 294 respondents (22 Business Education lecturers in public universities in Ebonyi State that offer the programme and 272 registered small and medium enterprises in Abakaliki metropolis). There was no sample because the population was manageable. A 17 item structured questionnaire validated by two experts in the field of Business Education and one expert in measurement and evaluation was used for the study. The reliability of the instrument, using Cronbach alpha yielded an overall reliability co-efficient of 0.74. Data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation and t-test. Findings showed that internet application skills, spreadsheet application skills, and database management application skills were required by Business Education students for entrepreneurship development. The researcher then concluded that Business Education students who want to develop entrepreneurship competencies for future businesses should be equipped with adequate computer application skills such as internet, spreadsheet, and database management since computer application skills have taken over every facet of business. Based on the findings of the study, it was recommended among others that government should equip Business Education departments in various universities with computers and internet facilities to enable the lecturers empower the students with the necessary skills required for entrepreneurship development and future businesses

Keywords: Computer Application skills, Entrepreneurship Development, Business Education, Data Management, Business.

Introduction

Advancement in technology globally has revolutionized every human and business activity. Rapid developments in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in recent years have resulted in significant changes in the way the world operates, communicates and do businesses. Ezinwa (2020) defined computer as an electronic device that manipulates information or data. It has the ability to store, retrieve and process data. Ezinwa further said that most businesses today create

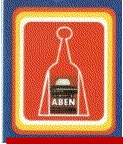


data that can be stored and processed on computers. Computer is an electronic device that is designed to help man perform different types of functions easily, speedily, accurately and effectively. Computer accepts data and instruction as instructed through the processing devices and gives accurate result. It converts raw facts into required information according to a set of instructions that are fed into it through the output devices. Computer is referred to as a system because it comprises of different components none of which can function independently without the others, just like the human body system (Emeasoba, Ekoh & Modebelu, 2015). Similarly, Victoria, Uchechi and Kate (2013), stated that computer is a programmable, multi-use machine that accepts data, raw facts and figures and processes or manipulates it into information. According to them, a computer as a machine or device can perform a variety of operations such as arithmetic calculation, comparison of data, storage of information, analysis and presentation of diagrams and charts which are used to digitally create, collect, store, manipulate and relay office information needed for accomplishment of basic business tasks and goals. In order words, computer helps enhance efficiency, workflow and overall experience within the work place and it streamlines communication because employees can easily connect with clients via some computer applications and share documents and important resources.

Computer application is a software that allows you to perform specific tasks in a skillful way (Ezinwa 2020). Skill is the ability to do something well. It is usually gained through training or experience that is needed. These skills can be obtained through education, training or experience that will inculcate into the individual on how to carry out or discharge his or her responsibilities well with new knowledge. Inalegwe (2016), saw skill as expertness and competence appropriate for a particular job. It has to do with expert knowledge and creative reasoning to a level of mastery. In order to attain these skills, the individual needs to acquire basic training or knowledge levels related to the tasks to perform whether through formal or informal or combination of the two. In a nutshell, computer application skill is seen by the researcher as the abilities and knowledge which allow one to use computers and related technology. Inalegwe noted that some of the computer applications skills required of business Education students are: word processors, spreadsheet, database management application, Microsoft PowerPoint, internet applications among others.

Due to the advancement in Information Technology, some businesses use the internet to share all kinds of information and to sell goods and services outside their geographical location. According to Ohaegbulem, Odah and Oko (2019), internet is a means of connecting a computer to any other computer anywhere in the world via dedicated routers or servers. The internet can be used to send and receive all kinds of information such as text, graphics voice, videos and so on. Ohaegbulam et al noted that the available internet application skills needed for entrepreneurship development and future business are: E- Business, E- commerce, Browsers, Search Engine, E- mail, Social media, World Wide Web, Audio and video conferencing among others. Internet has paved way for e-commerce activities to be successful. Many people are increasingly using the internet on a daily basis thereby providing a platform for the buying and selling of good and services. E-Business simply means Electronic Business. It is widely acknowledged today in the business world because business owners use the internet to modify communication between different businesses in the business world. Ezinwa (2019) defined E – Business as the application of information and communication technology (ICT) in support of all business activities. Some examples of the business activities are procurement of goods, supply activities, buying and selling products, making monetary transfer etc. It is an online business which one can easily use to set up any form of business and manage it from the comfort of their homes. It is also used for online interaction with business partners, customers and vendors which is aimed at improving business processes and efficiency.

E-Commerce is also known as Electronic commerce which means the buying and selling of goods and services over the internet. It also involves conducting transfer of ownership or rights to use goods and services through a computer mediated network. According to Ezinwa (2019) E-commerce is the use of electronic communication and digital information in business transaction to create, transform and redefine relationships for value creation between or among organizations and between organization and individuals. The internet provides a perfect market place where customers access the website of e-commerce vendors and order the product they want to buy online and make their



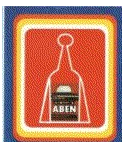
payment through the gateway. E-commerce website provides a rich experience to their customers by enabling them to: browse through the product catalogue and select the brand, view the photos, texture design and other aspect of the product closely before selection, compare the prices of various brands and read the reviews of current users of product they choose, order the product online and track the status of the delivery, pay online, return the product if the customers are not satisfied or size is not fitting Similarly, Ogbu and Amahi (2022) noted that e-commerce comprise the business web-site, log and other unique features that can easily differentiate one business from another.

E-mail is the abbreviation of Electronic mail. It is a computer based application which allows all internet users to send and receive messages from around the world Ohaegbulem et al (2019) explained that E-mail is information stored on a computer that is exchanged between two users over telecommunications. They further opined that e-mail messages may contain text, files, images, or other attachments sent through a network to a specified individual or group of individuals. E-mail allows employees irrespective of their location, office or organization to exchange correspondence. Your E-mail address gives necessary information about you; the information that will enable the electronic message to get across to you from anywhere the signal is present. Ohaegbulam et al, also stated that all business transactions can be done through E-mail to any part of the world and is a form of information dissemination from one computer to another. That is a system of sending written messages electronically from one computer to another. E- Mail can be used in business to introduce your business to new audience or to send relevant contents to customers on a regular basis. The relevant content can be newsletters, sales promotions. E-mail marketing is a platform used by businesses to communicate directly with existing consumers who indicate interest in the business' products. With the e-mail as a digital name for a business, e-mail marketing is a fast way to reach customers in their different locations. Customers may be added to an e-mail list and contacted where necessary (Ogbu & Amahi, 2022).

Social media is one of the computer application skills that are created through internet for users to communicate with others on the areas of their mutual interest, either from a personal, business or academic perspective. Social media is use for advertisement of goods and services, where a business owner makes the product known to the public. Victoria et al (2013) described social media as a social networking such as face book which can put workers in touch with each other in ways that could not have been if not for digital technology. The social media available on the internet are: face book, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, Tiktok among others. Social media are used to promote product and services in business. You can easily push out contents about your business (i.e. what you sell), and watch your followers to know how they feel about your business. Business owners have a valuable opportunity to build quality relationships with their followers by engaging in meaningful conversation with them. Social media is all about sharing and dialogue.

Audio and Video Conferencing is a set of interactive telecommunication technologies which allow two or more locations to interact via two-way video and audio transmission via internet. Ohaegbulam et al (2019) opined that, it is basically big screens with cameras attached to them, which have transformed the way teams collaborate across long distances by offering high definition face to face or audio meeting. This is used to organize a meeting of people who are geographically separated but connected by an audio or tele communication system, it also permits interaction between two or more people at different location. There are many applications used for this, they include: zoom, Skype, slack, meet etc. This helps in team collaboration in an organization. E-accounting refers to the application of online and internet technologies for accounting functions. It entails performing regular accounting functions, accounting research and accounting training cum education through various internet based accounting tools such as digital tool kits, various internet resources, international web based materials institute and company data bases which are internet based, were links, internet-based accounting software and electronic financial spreadsheet tools to provide efficient decision making (Memia in Adeboye and Akinlabi, 2022).

Another computer application that is used for creating, editing, organizing, reviewing and also used for financial models is spreadsheet. According to Victoria et al (2013), spreadsheet is used for account keeping. Examples of spreadsheet are Ms-Excel, Multiplan Auto calc among others. It is a

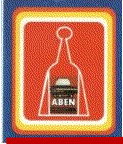


vital business tool used for creating financial spreadsheet, scheduling and tracking sales, creating invoices, creating receipts. It can also be used for statistical analysis, drawing of graphs and for calculations. Spreadsheet Excel is important for budget preparation, speedy operation of financial statements, cash flow projections and the determination of what would happen to cash flow if an unanticipated investment opportunity were utilized. It also helps in the inventory management and accounts production by bursary units of business organizations. Another computer application skill is database management skill.

Database management application skill is also an internet application that is required for entrepreneurship development. It is an organized or systematic collection of data or information that is specially organized which can be easily accessible, retrieved, managed and updated. According to Ezinwa, (2019), database helps to create and maintain (add, delete, Update), extract and list all records or only those records that meet the criteria, make an enquiry about a customer or employer, sort records in ascending and descending order, generate formatted report with subtotals and totals among others. Databases are often managed by a central function often called Management Information System (MIS). MIS, is an information system that evaluates, analyzes and processes an organization's data to produce meaningful and useful information based on which the management can take right decisions to ensure future growth of the organization. According to Umoru (2014), database management is a digital skill of information made up of individual items that are organized so that they can be reviewed in a variety of ways. With database management system like MS Access security of information against unauthorized users is highly guaranteed. In addition, database integrity is maintained by ensuring that no two users are able to update the same record at the same time as well as preventing duplicate entries, such as two employees being given the same employee number

Business owners or Entrepreneurs have become interested in the internet as means of advertising their products as well as to offer all kinds of information. For example, when a business web page address is known, potential customers can use a browser to go shopping or perform information browsing (Ohaegbulam et al 2019). The use of Computer application skills has revolutionized training methods in technical, business, health occupation, agricultural, trade and industrial home economics and distributive option of vocational education. Internet applications has been particularly useful in the problem solving aspect of vocational technical training (Effiong and Eunice 2018). The knowledge of these internet application skills will help to increase chances of business success. Business is seen as any legal activities that one does to earn money, make profit and to make a living. For one to embark on the venture whether small or big, one has to acquire the necessary skills needed to advance in business. There is need for Business Education students to acquire these skills in order to prepare themselves for work life upon graduation.

Business Education is a programme which prepares recipient after graduation to be an efficient office worker, a teacher or an entrepreneur. It is a process of instructing recipients of what happens in the business world. Oladunjoye (2016), explained that Business Education is education that prepare its recipients to acquire viable skills that will enable them fit into various business organizations or be self-employed in the absence of paid job. Business Education according to Ezeabii (2017) is an aspect of vocational education which equips individuals with the necessary skills and theoretical knowledge needed for performing in the business world either for job occupation or for self-employment. Business Education is that aspect of educational programme which provides students' the knowledge, skill, understanding and attitude needed to perform in the business world. Emeasoba, et al, (2015), opined that Business Education is a type of education that helps someone to learn the facts, acquire the skills, develop abilities, solve problems and be able to have business like attitudes useful for success in business situations. For this reasons, Business Education students are being taught the attitude, knowledge, skills and understanding which they need to perform in the world of business. The teaching of computer in Business Education programme will go a long way in developing the students' computer application skills required for future business and entrepreneurship development.



Entrepreneurship Development is seen as the acquisition of skills by an individual for business formation. According to Akutson and Ude (2015), it is a pre-planned advancement, increase or growth in skills and capacity which give entrepreneurial ability in a given set of people in tertiary institutions or in agencies. Universities is an institution of higher learning and one of the places where business and entrepreneurship education is offered. The entrepreneurship education is offered in the universities as a vocational course. The aim of Entrepreneurship Development Education in the universities is to allow students to acquire these skills, knowledge and attitude to enable them take the role of entrepreneurs, thereby creating jobs for themselves and for others (Ekpo & Edet, 2011). The Business Education as a vocational course is offered in both public and private universities in Ebonyi State. However, as Business Education programme is run in the universities, both male and female lecturers teach the course and both male and female students enroll for the programme and are exposed to the same skill. There is no gender bias in the teaching and learning of the course in the universities in Ebonyi State. The researcher is limiting the research work to public schools, that is, the universities owned by the government in Ebonyi State. Ebonyi State is one of the 36 States in Nigeria. It is located in the South Eastern region of Nigeria. It is certain that most of the schools in the state do not have the technological devices for imparting skills required for future business and entrepreneurship development. This situation prompted this study which investigates Computer application skills required for Entrepreneurship Development among Business Education students in Universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses.

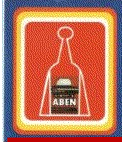
Statement of the Study

Computer application is a software that allows you to perform a task in a skillful way. The acquisition of adequate computer application skills will enable students after graduation to fit into the society in the world of work and also enable them to be successful business owners or entrepreneurs. Most students are graduating from the universities without necessary skills and competencies. However, if the students have acquired the computer application skills required for entrepreneurship development for future businesses, they are supposed to start or establish and manage their own entrepreneurship business. But instead of establishing their own businesses, they go in search of paid jobs (white collar jobs). Even when they get the work in some offices they still lack the skills and competencies required from them. This lack of skill and competencies is what causes poor work output and lack of efficiency. That is why most organizations usually send their staff to training and retraining programmes. The researchers is wondering if the computer application skills are not taught in schools or the student want to be among the graduates with the burden of surplus unemployable work force because of the wide gap created by absence of skills and competencies. The main focus of the problem of this study is that Business Education students seems to be lacking in computer application skills required for Entrepreneurship Development for future businesses. And due to the current phase of technological changes in the business world, there is need for them to be properly equipped with the necessary computer application skills needed to operate in present day highly automated business world in order for them to be successful in future businesses.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. What are the internet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses?
2. What are the spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses?
3. What are the database management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses?



Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance.

- Ho₁ A significant difference does not exist between the mean ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of small and medium enterprises (SMES) on the internet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses.
- Ho₂ There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) on the spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses.
- Ho₃ There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) on the data management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses.

Method

The researchers adopted descriptive survey research design for the study. This design was deemed appropriate since the study involved studying a group of people or items as well collecting and analyzing data from few people or entire group (Nworgu, 2015). The area of the study was public universities in Ebonyi State. The Population of the study comprised of 294 respondents (22 Business Education lecturers in public universities in Ebonyi State that offer the programme and 272 registered small and medium enterprises in Abakaliki metropolis). There was no sample because the population was manageable. The instrument for data collection was a structured questionnaire titled "Computer Application Skills for Entrepreneurship Development and future businesses". The questionnaire was divided into two-parts (A and B). Part A contained the demographic data while part B consists 17 items in three clusters of B1 to B3 structured on a 4-point rating scale of highly required(HR), moderately required (MR), slightly required (SR) and not required (NR) with weighting numerical values of 4,3,2, and 1 respectively. The instrument was validated by three experts in the department of Business Education and one in Measurement and Evaluation in the Faculty of Education all in Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki. It was subjected to a reliability test using Cronbach alpha, which gave a coefficient of 0.74. The researchers administered the instrument to the study population with the help of two research assistants who were properly guided on the procedure. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions and determined the spread of the respondents' means while t-test was used to test the hypotheses at.05 level of significance. The decision for research questions was based on item by item means score of the two groups as well as the grand mean scores using a cut-off mean of 2.50 so that means scores above 2.50 are required and those below are not required. The t-test was used to test the null hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. A null hypothesis was not rejected if the t-calculated is less than the t-critical value and rejected if the t-calculated is equal or higher than the t-critical value

Results and Discussions

Research Question 1: What are the internet skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses?

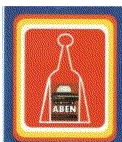


Table 1: Mean ratings of respondents on internet skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

S/N	Internet skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.	Mean	SD	Remarks
1	Skills in the use of search engines	3.25	0.74	Required
2	Skills in the use of social media platform to advertise business	3.34	0.81	Required
3	Ability to organize video conferences or discussion forum using Skype, Team speak, Google meet etc.	3.52	0.72	Required
4	Ability to search and buy goods online	3.36	0.69	Required
5	Ability to use E-mail	3.33	0.73	Required
6	Ability to deliver goods on line	3.48	0.82	Required
7	Ability to make payment online	3.23	0.59	Required
Cluster \bar{X} and SD		3.37	0.73	Required

Table 1 shows that the mean scores of the respondents for all the items ranged from 3.23 to 3.52 with the cluster mean scores of 3.37 which is greater than the cut-off mean of 2.50. This indicates that respondents agreed that internet application skills are required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities for future businesses. The standard deviation scores for all the items are within the same range of 0.59-0.82 showing that the respondents are homogenous in their ratings.

Research Question 2: What are the spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses?

Table 2: Mean ratings of respondents on spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

S/N	Spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.	Mean	SD	Remarks
1.	Calculate using spreadsheet	3.99	0.88	Required
2.	Enter accurate text and numeric data in specified format	3.07	0.84	Required
3.	Move from cell to cell and read meanings of clear and delete in MS Excel	3.43	0.74	Required
4.	Review spreadsheet structure and spreadsheet	3.38	0.77	Required
5	Design and modify the appearance of charts, graphs save, retrieve and print out	3.35	0.72	Required
Cluster \bar{X} and SD		3.44	0.79	Required

Table 2 shows that the mean scores of the respondents for all the items ranged from 3.07 to 3.99 with the cluster mean scores of 3.44 which is greater than the cut-off mean of 2.50. This indicates that respondents agreed that spreadsheet application skills are required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities for future businesses. However, the standard deviation scores for all the items are within the same range of 0.72- 0.88 showing that the respondents are homogenous in their ratings.

Research Question 3: What are the database management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses?

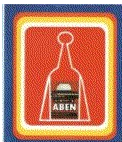


Table 2: Respondents’ mean ratings on database management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

N = 294

S/N	Data management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses.	Mean	SD	Remarks
1.	Understand the types of files, identify organization methods and demonstrate how to start and quit DBM application	3.46	0.71	Required
2.	Structure query language (SQL) manipulation skills set	3.39	0.70	Required
3.	Constructing and maintain DBM	3.43	0.74	Required
4.	Ability to create files in database	3.28	0.77	Required
5.	Cloud base database management system	3.05	0.82	Required
	Cluster \bar{X} and SD	3.32	0.78	Required

Table 3 shows that the mean scores of the respondents for all the items ranged from 3.05 to 3.46 with the cluster mean scores of 3.32 which is greater than the cut-off mean of 2.50. This indicates that respondents agreed that database management application skills are required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students in universities for future businesses. The standard deviation scores for all the items are written the same range of 0.70-0.82 showing that the respondents are homogenous in their ratings.

Test of Hypotheses

Ho₁: There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of SMEs on the internet skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

Table 4: Summary of t-test analysis of the difference between the \bar{x} ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of SMEs on internet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses.

S/N	Group	No	\bar{x}	SD	DF	t-cal	t-tab	Level of significance	Remarks
1.	Males	158	3.37	0.73					
2.	Female	136	3.52	0.69	292	0.849	1.960	0.05	NS

Table 4 shows that the t-calculated (t-cal) value of 0.849 is less than the t-table (t-tab) value of 1.960 at $p < 0.05$ level of significance and at 292 degree of freedom (df). This shows that, there was no significant difference between the \bar{x} ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of SMEs in Ebonyi State on their internet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses. Therefore, the null hypothesis or no significant difference was not rejected.

Ho₂: There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of male and female business educators and owners of SMEs on the spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

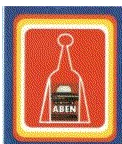


Table 2: Summary of t-test analysis of the difference between the mean ratings of male and female business educators and owners of SMEs on spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

S/ N	Group	No	\bar{X}	SD	DF	T-cal	T-tab	Level of significance	Remarks
1	Male	158	3.44	0.79					
2.	Female	136	2.86	0.81	292	0.917	1.960	0.05	NS

Table 5 shows that the t- calculated value of 0.917 is less than the t- table (t-tab) value of 1.960 at ≤ 0.05 level of significance and at 292 degree of freedom (df). This shows that, there was no significant difference between the mean ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of SMES on the spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students of public universities in Ebonyi State for future businesses. Therefore, the null hypothesis of no significant difference was not rejected.

Ho₃: There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of male and female business educators and owners of SMEs on the database management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses.

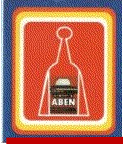
Table 6: Summary of t-test analysis of the difference between the \bar{X} rating of male and female Business Educators and owners of SMEs on database management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses

S/N	Group	No	\bar{x}	SD	DF	t-cal	t-tab	Level of significance	Remarks
1.	Male	158	3.07	0.74					
2.	Female	136	3.05	0.82	292	0.706	1.862	0.05	NS

Table 6 shows that the t - calculated value of 0.706 is less that the t – table value of 1.862 at $p \leq 0.5$ level of significance and at 292 degree of freedom (df). This shows that, there was no significant difference between the mean (\bar{x}) ratings of male and female Business Educators and owners of SMES on database management application skills required for entrepreneurship development among Business Education students for future businesses. Therefore, the null hypothesis of no significant different was not rejected.

Discussion of Findings

Findings of research question one revealed the internet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses such as: skills in the use of search engines, ability to deploy social media platform (Face book, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram etc.) to advertise products, goods and services, ability to organize video conferencing or discussions forums online using Skype, TeamSpeak, Google meet, ability to search, buy and make payment for goods bought online. The report of Ohaegbulam et al (2019) agreed with this finding that internet skills needed for entrepreneurship development, include e-commerce, e-marketing among others and some businesses use the internet to share all kinds of information and sell goods and services outside their geographical location. This means that Business Educators and Owners of small and medium enterprises are in agreement that internet application skills are required by Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State. The findings also showed that gender



had no significant influence with regard to items on the internet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses.

The findings of research question two showed the spreadsheets application skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses to include: Ability to calculate using spreadsheet, ability to enter accurate text and numeric data in specified format, ability to move from cell to cell and read meanings of clear and delete in MS Excel, ability to review spreadsheet structure and plan spreadsheet and ability to design and modify the appearance of charts, graphs, save, retrieve and print out. This is in agreement with the report of Victoria et al (2013) that spreadsheet is used for creating, editing, organizing, reviewing and financial models. Spreadsheet is used for account keeping. Example Ms Excel, Multiplan, AutoCad among others. Business education graduates requires proficiency in the use of spreadsheet to scheduling and tracking sales, creating invoices, creating receipts, creating financial spreadsheet. It also helps in statistical analysis, drawing of graphs and calculation of sales (Ezinwa, 2019). This means that Business Educators and Owners of small and medium enterprises are in agreement that spreadsheet application skills are required by Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State. The findings also showed that gender had no significant influence with regard to items on the spreadsheet application skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses.

Findings of research question three revealed the database management skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future business includes: Ability to file document and identify organization methods, ability to demonstrate how to start and quit DBM application, ability to structure query language (SQL), ability to construct and maintain database, ability to create files in database and proficiently in cloud base database management system. This is in line with the report of Ezinwa (2019) that database helps to create and maintain (add, delete, update), extract and list all records or only those records that meet the criteria. Skills in the use of Data base help entrepreneur to e-enquiry about customers or employers, sort records in ascending and descending order, generate formatted report with subtotal among others. Proficiency in data base management enables Business Education students or would be entrepreneurs to evaluate, analyze and process organization's data to produce meaning and useful information. This means that Business Educators and Owners of small and medium enterprises are in agreement that database management application skills are required by Business Education students in universities in Ebonyi State. The findings also showed that gender had no significant influence with regard to items on the database management skills required for entrepreneurship development among business education students for future businesses.

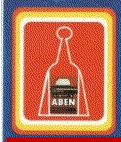
Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study, it was concluded that computer application skills such as internet skills, spreadsheet skills and database management skills will greatly assist the Business Education students in entrepreneurship development for future businesses since the computer has taken over every facet of business. This will also reduce unemployment among Business Education graduates.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

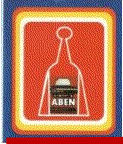
1. Government should equip business education departments in various universities with computers and internet facilities to enable the lecturers empower the students with the necessary skills required for entrepreneurship development and future businesses.
2. University management should always organize professional development programme for Business Education lecturers to enable them learn new trends in their careers and impact same to business education students.



3. Business education students should also learn some of these computer application skills on their own so that they will continue to be relevant in their profession and compete favourably with their counterparts globally.
4. Business education students should learn best practices in entrepreneurship development in order to prepare themselves for future businesses.

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