ISSUES AND TRENDS IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Edited by:
Ahmad Bakeri Abu Bakar

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Introduction

It is openly discussed in the media about the quality of education offered by public universities. Some have argued that public universities have not been responding quickly or effectively to market demands and therefore their graduates typically experience higher unemployment rates and they get lower-paid jobs also. Preference in the offerings of professional programme such as engineering and medicine that can bring economic profit to the public universities is seldom seen as their raison d'être. If we look at Times Higher Education in the annual ranking of world universities we find the top three universities: Harvard University, California Institute of Technology and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) are private universities and are also renowned for their excellence in medicine and engineering programmes. It has been shown that these top notched private universities have been shown to be highly visible and accessible (Ahmad Bakeri, 2011). There are also public universities that offer world class education as in the case of the University of Cambridge which ranks in the sixth position. It has also been shown to be highly visible and accessible like its counterparts. It has also been shown that public universities in Japan provide better