

## **Enhancing Utilization of Student-Centred Instructional Delivery Strategies for Metal Work Programmes in Universities**

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### **Abstract**

This study focused on utilization of student-centred instructional delivery strategies for metal work programmes in public universities in Enugu state, Nigeria. Three research questions and three hypotheses guided the study. The study used survey research design. Population comprised 21 metal work educators, made up 12 lecturers and nine instructors drawn from public universities offering metal work programmes in Enugu State. Questionnaire was used for data collection. Data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation and t-test. Major findings include 15 student-centred instructional delivery strategies. These are problem based learning with ICT, project based learning with ICT, and others. Other findings are 10 hindrances to use of student-centred instructional strategies, including, poor awareness of innovations in the system, poor infrastructure, refusal to yield to instructional delivery innovations, inadequate manpower, among others. Further findings are 12 ways of ameliorating challenges to use student-centred instructional delivery strategies. These include, there should be availability of innovation tools and equipment, and others. The paper recommends, among others, that metal work stakeholders (metal work educators) should collectively use methodologies and competencies in instructional delivery that will improve acquisition of knowledge and skills in metal work programmes.

**Keywords:** Metal, Work, Universities, Programmes, Instructional, Delivery Strategies, Student-Centred.

## Introduction

Adequate instructional delivery approach is necessary for training appropriate technical manpower. The global technological changes have brought about numerous challenges and demands on metal work programmes which has effected its instructional delivery strategies. Thus the need for enhancements for adequate and effective operations in high changing environment of metal work programmes in the universities (Ezeji&Okorie in Magnus 2015). Universities are describe as the important sources of knowledge, technology and skilled human capital, that can provide valuable ideas and support to new industries and are engaged in innovation and entrepreneurship (Ranga, Temel, Ar, Yesilay& Vardar-Sukan 2016). Universities are setup to train individuals, develop and to conduct researches that could lead to innovations of society (Jimoh et al 2020). The Nigeria University is one of the institutions that offer education or training for the acquisition of knowledge and skills of metal work. These universities can be public or privately owned. Public university as it concerns this study is the university that is owned and managed by the state or federal Government while the private universities are the one that is owned by individuals (Eze and Okorafor, 2012).

Metal work being one of the programmes offered in Nigeria universities is concerned with the ability of using metal to create parts

and assemble large scale structures. Audu, Kamin & Balash, (2013) sees Metal work as education for work or occupation geared towards the needs of the industries and work force. Obe (2019) viewed metal work as the science involved in shaping things or part of objects out of metals in a very skilful way for the use of mankind and benefits of the society. Villaton (2010) describe metal work as the activities of using metals or metal based materials for the purpose of fabrication, construction and other associate project. Metalwork is also described as an entrepreneurial based and skill oriented field of study that is expected to equip learners with sellable skills and make for self-reliance and paid employment (Ugbelu, 2015). Having knowledge of Metal work and acquisition of appropriate skills, abilities and competencies both intellectual and physical are important for all Nigerians to live and subsidise to the development of their society (Federal Republic of Nigeria - FRN in Magnus, 2015). Metal work programmes in the universities consist of some occupational component or areas (scope) such as machine work technology, forging/ foundry work, welding work and auto mobile (Obe2019). This study looked at the instructional delivery of metal work as a whole since the instructional delivery system is same in all the occupational areas.

Instructional delivery is the art of teaching that create impact in the intellectual, economic and social

development of a learner. Chapuis (2003) defines instructional delivery as a combination of knowledge and skills required for effective teaching. Adirika and Alike, (2010) suggested that instructional delivery in metal work programmes in universities should be done with traits like persistence, determination, self-confidence among others. The scopes to a good instructional delivery as described by Chapuisin Omeje, Odogwu and Omeje (2015) should include; High degree of intellectual quality; High level of demonstrable relevance or connectedness; highly supportive classroom environments; and strong recognition of individual difference. The instructional delivery strategies of metal work in the public universities is based on teachers-centred instructional delivery with a little shift to student-centred instructional strategies. The teachers-centred instructional delivery strategy sees students as respondents to external stimuli where the teachers are considered as the experts who must impart all the relevant information to the students. Student-centred instructional (SCI) strategy is a kind of instructional delivery that consider the students as the main agents of the instruction. Solaiman, (2016) defined student centered instructional (SCI) delivery strategy as an approach where students are in the center of the learning process and influence the learning. The SCI approach includes such techniques as critical or creative thinking, using self-paced and cooperative learning thus increasing motivation to learn, greater

retention of knowledge, deeper understanding, and more positive attitudes towards the subject being taught (Collins & O'Brien, in Solaiman, 2016). Angela (2010) noted that SCL approach varies according to the type of students involved in the learning process, teaching materials, type of environment in which such learning takes place, amongst other things.

The global advance in technology has brought about several changes and innovations in the learning environment and in the labour market of metal work. The students-centred instructional delivery strategies used in metal work programmes in universities has been affected by the global technological advancement thus does not bring about the transformation needed to meet the rapidly technological change in the world of work. This has led to job insecurity, skill mismatched and the growing youth unemployment amongst metal work graduates universities. Jummai, Aishatu, Ibrahim & Conrad (2013) noted that the youths (metal work graduates inclusive) are unemployed and unutilized due to lack of skills that would make them take up gainful employment or become self-reliance. Barr and Miller (2013) is of the view that students-centred instructional delivery strategies can only be made possible if the physical environment and facilities that promotes learning is put in place and sustained. Magnus, (2015) noted also that lack of skills relevant to the workplace, lack of information and

connections among youth, especially youth of metal work are the major reasons why metal work graduates are unemployed in today's industrial world. This is in contrary with the purpose of metal work programmes in the universities which is for acquisition of knowledge and skill for gainful employment in the related industries and for self-reliance. Hence there is need to enhance the student-centred learning strategies of metal work for adequate acquisition of skills for effective performance in the world of work. Jimoh et al (2020) suggested the use of mobile communication technologies to execute given tasks as the answer to cope with the several changes and innovations in learning environment and employment situations. Oecd in Jimoh et al (2020), also stated that the demands for skills towards more erudite tasks suggest that metal work graduates with poor 21<sup>st</sup> century skills are more likely to find themselves at risk of unemployment and community elimination. Yalams, (2016) is of the view that the 21<sup>st</sup> century innovations in teaching and learning that gives room for more effective instructional delivery as well as technical competence should be integrated into metal work instructional delivery system. These innovations provide for problem based learning with ICT, project based learning with ICT, inquiry based learning with ICT among others. Bukhari, 2010 suggested the hindrances to the use of student-centred instructional delivery strategies to include limited resources,

poor awareness, inadequate manpower and training among others. Sunday, Vera, Chinedu & Adenike (2018), enumerated some of the ways of getting these innovations in the student-centred instructional strategies to include: availability of the innovation equipment, retraining of teachers, provision and effective utilization of funds among others. These innovations will help in facing out the job insecurity, skill mismatch and youth unemployment among metal work graduates (Yalams, 2016). The absence of these 21<sup>st</sup> century innovation in student-centred instructional delivery strategies of metal work programmes remains a problem that hinders adequate skill acquisitions for employment and self-reliance after graduation. There is need therefor to enhance the student-centred instructional delivery strategies in metal work programmes in public universities in Enugu State.

### **Purpose of the study**

This study focused on student-centred instructional delivery strategies for metal work programmes in public universities of Enugu State.

Specifically the study determined:

1. various student-centred instructional delivery strategies that could be used in metal work programmes.
2. factors that could hinder use of student-centred instructional strategies in metal work programmes.
3. ways of ameliorating the challenges to use of student-centred instructional delivery

strategies of metal work programmes.

### Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. What are the various student-centred instructional delivery strategies that could be used in metal work programmes?
2. What factors could hinder the use of student-centred instructional strategies?
3. What are the ways of ameliorating hindrances to use of student-centred instructional delivery strategies for metal work programmes?

### Research Hypotheses

There is no significant difference in the mean responses of lecturers and instructors on:

- HO<sub>1</sub>:** Various student-centred instructional delivery strategies that could be used in metal work programmes.
- HO<sub>2</sub>:** The hindrances to the use of the student-centred instructional strategies
- HO<sub>3</sub>:** The ways of ameliorating the challenges to use the student-centred instructional delivery strategies of metal work programmes

### Methodology

The study adopted survey research design and was carried out in Enugu state, Nigeria. Three research questions and one hypothesis guided the study.

**Area of the study:** The study was done in Enugu state. This was due to the fact that there are two public universities offering metal work technology in the state. These are University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN) and Enugu State University of Science and Technology (ESUT).

**Population of the study:** The population of the study was 21 metal work educators made up of 12 lecturers and nine instructors of metal work programme from both UNN and ESUT. Source of information were the Academic Planning Offices of both Universities for the period of 2019-2020. There was no sampling considering the manageable size of the population.

**Instrument for Data Collection:** questionnaire was used for data collection. It had a four point scale of Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree with their nominal values of 4, 3, 2 and 1 respectively. The instrument was validated by three experts in Metal Work Education. Cronbach Alpha method was used to establish the reliability of the instrument. Reliability coefficient of .89 was obtained.

**Data Collection Techniques:** The 21 copies of the questionnaire administered by hand to the respondents. All the 21 copies were properly filled and retrieved. This represents 100 percent return.

**Method of Data Analysis:** Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions while t-test was employed to test the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

Any mean value that is greater than or equal to 2.50 ( $\geq 2.50$ ) was regarded as "Agree" while mean values less than 2.50 were regarded as "Disagree". The null hypothesis was accepted if the p-value (t-calculated) is greater than 0.05

level (t-critical) but the null hypotheses was rejected if the p-value (t-calculated) is less than 0.05 level value of the t-critical.

### Findings of the Study

**Table 1: Mean Responses and Standard Deviation of Lecturers and Instructors on Various Student-Centred Instructional Delivery Strategies (IDS) that Could be Used in Metal Work Programmes.**

S/N	Student-centred IDS	Mean	S.D	P-value	Remarks	SIG
1	problem based learning with ICT	2.60	0.71	0.14	Agree	NS
2	project based learning with ICT	2.57	0.77	0.18	Agree	NS
3	Inquiry based learning with ICT.	2.66	0.76	0.19	Agree	NS
4	Instruction that involves participatory and interaction.	2.73	0.61	0.17	Agree	NS
5	Instruction that are flexible and have blended approach	2.63	0.79	0.37	Agree	NS
6	Instruction that have Competency-based approaches	2.57	0.66	0.07	Agree	NS
7	Instruction that support intellectual engagement	2.53	0.77	0.16	Agree	NS
8	Instruction that support connectedness to the wider world,	2.73	0.61	0.17	Agree	NS
9	Enhanced critical or creative thinking form of instructions	2.54	0.67	0.31	Agree	NS
10	Enhanced use of self-paced and cooperative learning	2.63	0.79	0.37	Agree	NS
11	Enhanced motivation to learn.	2.75	0.69	0.09	Agree	NS
12	Use of instructive games, drills and practice in instructions.	2.51	0.72	0.19	Agree	NS
13	Use of simulations and instructional exercises	2.57	0.66	0.07	Agree	NS
14	Use of virtual lab perceptions and illustrations in instructions	2.53	0.77	0.16	Agree	NS
15	Use of representations of unique ideas, musical piece and master frameworks	2.73	0.64	0.17	Agree	NS

*Keys: SD- Standard deviation; REM-Remark; NS-Not significant.*

Table 1 reveals that all the 15 items have their mean values above the cut-off point of 2.50 indicating that the 15 items pointed out the various student-centred instructional delivery strategies that could be used in metal work programmes.

In other hand, the standard deviations of all the 15 items in table 1 range from 0.79-0.61 showing that the respondents were not far from each other in their responses. On the other

hand, the hypothesis showed that all the 15 items in table 1 have their p-values greater than 0.05 level of significance. The null hypothesis was therefore accepted meaning that there is no significance difference in the mean responses of the lecturers and the instructors on the items suggested for the various student-centred instructional delivery strategies that could be used in metal work programmes (by metal work lecturers).

**Table 2: Mean Response and Standard Deviation of Lecturers and Instructor on Hindrances to Use of Student-Centred Instructional Strategies.**

S/N	Hindrances to Use of IDS	Mean	S.D	P-value	Remarks	SIG
1	Poor awareness of innovations in the system.	2.88	0.74	0.14	Agree	NS
2	Poor infrastructure	2.68	0.74	0.09	Agree	NS
3	Refusal to yield to instructional delivery innovations	2.96	0.76	0.19	Agree	NS
4	Poor management of the system	2.78	0.78	0.27	Agree	NS
5	Poor commitment to interactive knowledge environment	2.81	0.78	0.07	Agree	NS
6	Inadequate manpower	2.58	0.75	0.24	Agree	NS
7	Inadequate training	2.56	0.77	0.16	Agree	NS
8	Instability in energy	2.66	0.82	0.21	Agree	NS
9	Poor internet	2.67	0.83	0.21	Agree	NS
10	Poor network facilities	2.57	0.85	0.17	Agree	NS

*Keys: SD- Standard deviation; REM-Remark, NS-Not significant.*

Table 2 reveals that the 10 items listed as the hindrances or factors that could hinder the use of the student-centred instructional strategies have their mean values all above the cut-off point of 2.50 indicating that the items suggested are the hindrances or factors

that could hinder the use of the student-centred instructional strategies. The standard deviation of the 10 items in table 2 ranges from 0.07-0.27 which shows that the respondents were not far from each other in their responses. On the other hand, the

hypothesis showed that all the 10 items in table 2 have their p-values greater than 0.05 level of significance. The null hypothesis was therefore accepted meaning that there is no significance difference in the mean

responses of the lecturers and the instructors on the items suggested that hinder the use of the student-centred instructional strategies of metal work in public universities in Enugu State.

**Table 3: Mean Responses and Standard Deviation of Lecturers and Instructor on the Ways of Ameliorating Challenges to Use Students-Centred Instructional Delivery Strategies for Metal Work Programmes**

S/N	Item Statements	Mean	SD	P-Values	Remarks	SIG
1	There should be availability of innovation tools and equipment.	2.88	0.74	0.37	Agree	NS
2	The metal work curriculum of the universities should incorporate the new innovations in SCI delivery.	2.68	0.66	0.17	Agree	NS
3	SCI should be done with trait like persistence, self-confidence, among others.	2.96	0.76	0.19	Agree	NS
4	SCI should incorporate supportive class room environment.	2.78	0.78	0.18	Agree	NS
5	There should be retraining of teachers on the innovation tools and equipment.	2.81	0.79	0.14	Agree	NS
6	There should be effective utilization of funds and equipment.	2.58	0.75	0.07	Agree	NS
7	SCI should incorporate competency-based instructions	2.72	0.67	0.16	Agree	NS
8	SCI should incorporate flexible and blended approach of instruction.	2.70	0.61	0.17	Agree	NS
9	SCI should be supported and well-funded by the metal work stakeholder.	2.56	0.77	0.31	Agree	NS
10	There should be effective enhancement of curriculum as it concern metal work programmes in innovation era.	2.66	0.82	0.37	Agree	NS
11	SCI should implement evaluation of the graduates in the field of work to determine skill gap.	2.67	0.83	0.09	Agree	NS
12	SCI should emphasize on creativity of the students as part of mastering the ski	2.57	0.85	0.19	Agree	NS

*Keys: SD- Standard deviation; REM-Remark, NS-Not significant.*



Table 3 reveals that the 12 items listed as the ways of ameliorating the challenges of using the students-centred instructional delivery strategies of metal work programmes have their mean values all above the cut-off point of 2.50 indicating that the items suggested are necessary ways for enhancing students-centred instructional delivery strategies of metal work programmes in public universities in Enugu State. The standard deviation of the 12 items ranges from 0.61-0.85 showing that the respondents were not far from each other in their responses. The hypothesis also showed that all the 12 items in table3 have their p-values greater than 0.05 level of significance. The null hypothesis was therefore accepted meaning that there is no significance difference in the mean responses of the lecturers and the instructors on the ways of ameliorating the challenges of using the students-centred instructional delivery strategies of metal work programmes in public universities in Enugu State.

### **Discussion**

The finding of the study in table 1 revealed that the 15 items that were suggested for on the various student-centred instructional delivery strategies that could be used in metal work programmes were all accepted and this indicated that the various student-centred instructional delivery strategies suggested are in order for enhancement of student centred instruction

The implication of this finding is that adequate acquisition of knowledge and skills in metal work programmes in this world of technological advancement can be achieved if the students-centred instructional delivery strategies suggested are applied. This is in line with Yalams, (2016) who is of the view that the 21st century innovations in teaching and learning that gives room for more effective instructional delivery as well as technical competence should be integrated into metal work instructional delivery system. Jimoh et al (2020) also suggested that Acquisition of skills and knowledge through the use of mobile communication technologies to execute tasks is the answer to cope with the several changes and innovations in today's employment situations. Paul (2019) in his study also supported that the current instructional method employed by most metal work educators during instructional delivery seems ineffective for equipping the learner for better skill acquisition, performance and interest. There is need therefore to enhance students-centred instructional delivery of metal work for effective skill acquisition and employment after graduation.

The finding on Table 2 revealed that all the items presented as the hindrances or factors that could hinder the use of the student-centred instructional strategies were all accepted as the factors that could hinder the use of the student-centred instructional strategies delivery in

metal work programme in public universities in Enugu State. The implication of this finding is that acquisition of skills in metal work cannot be achieved adequately because of some hindrances that needed to be treated to yield dividends and enhance productivity. This is in line with Bukhari, 2010 who viewed the hindrances to the use of instructional delivery strategies as limited resources, poor awareness, among others. Magnus, (2015) also noted that lack of skills relevant to the workplace, lack of information and connections among youth, especially youth of metal work are the major reasons why metal work graduates are unemployed in today's industrial world.

The finding on Table 3 revealed that all the items presented indicated the ways of ameliorating the challenges of using the students-centred instructional delivery strategies of metal work programmes. The finding is in line with Sunday, Vera, Chinedu & Adenike (2018), who enumerated some of the ways of getting these innovations in the students-centred instructional strategies to include: availability of the innovation equipment among others. Barr and Miller (2013) also is of the view that students-centred instructional delivery strategies can only be made possible if the physical environment and facilities that promotes learning is put in place and sustained.

The findings also showed that enhancing the students-centred instructional delivery of metal work

should be done with traits like persistence, determination, self-confidence, creativity, organization, among others as supported by (Adirika and Alike, 2010). The SCI approach therefore should include such techniques as critical or creative thinking, using self-paced and cooperative learning thus increasing motivation to learn, greater retention of knowledge, deeper understanding, and more positive attitudes towards the subject being taught (Collins & O'Brien, in Solaiman, 2016). Furthermore, the result of the hypothesis indicated that there is no significant difference in the mean response of the lecturers and the instructors of metalwork in public university on the items in Tables 1, 2 and 3. This indicated that the respondents had similar agreement on the items suggested.

### **Conclusion**

The students-centred instructional delivery strategies in metal work do not bring about the transformation needed to meet the rapidly technological change in the world of work. This is so because it does not capture the modern technology in its instructional delivery method. These have being indicated in job insecurity, skill mismatched and the growing youth unemployment amongst metal workers. The 21st century innovations in teaching and learning that give room for more effective instructional delivery as well as technical competence have being suggested above for enhancement of students-

centred instructional delivery of metal work in public universities. There is need therefore for student-centred instructional delivery to capture the new innovations in technology for adequate skill acquisition in metal work programmes in universities. This is the only way the instructional delivery strategies can respond to the demands of modern technology and be able to face out the job insecurity, skill mismatch and youth unemployment among metal work personnel.

### Recommendations

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

1. Metal work educator should collectively use methodologies and competencies in instructional delivery that will aid adequate skill acquisition in metal work programmes.
2. Metal work stakeholders should enhance the students-centred instructional delivery of metal work programmes to match the trends of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.
3. Metal work stakeholders should organized an innovation lessons and capacity building training for metal work educators in other to update their skills and knowledge.
4. Metal work curriculum should be revisited to incorporate innovative skill for enhancing students-centred instructional delivery strategies that embraces new technology

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