Towards Bridging the Teaching and Learning Gap in Qualification Design and Development for Sustainable Development in Open Distance Learning (ODL)

Annickie Ravhudzulo

Directorate Curriculum and Learning Development, University of South Africa, South Africa
E-mail: ravhuna@unisa.ac.za


ABSTRACT The purpose of this study was to document students and academics’ perceptions and experiences of learning and teaching in order to improve service delivery in Open Distance Learning (ODL). In this paper, I attempt to provide a richer picture of how to bridge the teaching and learning gap in qualification design and development. A combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods was used to bridge the teaching and learning gap in ODL and other African Universities. The qualitative part involved semi-structured interviews while a questionnaire provided quantitative data. Collected data was categorized into programme qualification mix (PQM), instructional design and the implementation of a framework for team approach (FTA). The key findings indicated that there were deficiencies in the PQM and the development of curricula. A survey to establish improved processes and procedures for the PQM in bridging the teaching and learning gap is recommended for quality facilitation of teaching and learning.