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Challenges, Responses, and Prospects for Post COVID-19 Higher Education Management in Kenya

This article explores the prospect for higher education management post Covid-19 in Kenya. The arrival of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) in Kenya March 2020 did not only present a challenge due to the closure of universities alongside other schools but also presented an opportunity for higher learning institutions to be innovative in their delivery of content to students. As such, it is necessary for scholars to explore how the institutions of higher learning will live with the new normal given that the situation has prolonged more than expected. This article therefore tries to tackle two objectives: to find out how higher education institutions in Kenya responded to the Covid-19 pandemic and to predict how higher education management in Kenya will look like post-Covid-19. The authors adopted Kurt Lewin's 1947 change management model. The theory recognizes that when an organisation is faced with a challenge, it has to undergo three stages of change (unfreeze, transition and refreeze). This theory was used to understand the transition that institutions of higher learning had to undergo in order to adopt ways of surviving in the new normal. Descriptive research design was used in this study in which data was collected from the archives regarding the way institutions of higher learning in Kenya and elsewhere responded to Covid-19 pandemic. As such, archival retrieval and exploration of existing literature on Covid-19 response was obtained. The collected data was put in themes and through triangulation and predictions were made and conclusion drawn. The findings of this study add to the increasing literature on Covid-19 pandemic and specifically contribute to the impact of Covid-19 pandemic to higher education sector.

Key Words

Responses, Prospects, Covid-19 and Higher education

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