

III. ПРОБЛЕМИ МЕТОДИКИ НАВЧАННЯ ТЕХНОЛОГІЧНИХ ДИСЦИПЛІН

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THE INTERNET AND ITS IMPACT ON MODERN SOCIETY

Today, most people cannot imagine their lives without the Internet and it has grown to be more than merely an entertainment. It has become a necessity in the lives of the vast majority of Earth's population. According to statistics, the Internet is used by 85% of people in America and by 65% of Ukraine's population. Every seventh person uses Facebook. By the end of 2016, the number of Internet users will be about three billion, and that's almost half of all people who inhabit our planet (1).

The Internet has an enormous amount of benefits. First and foremost, news travels faster through the World Wide Web than they ever did in the past. As an example, we can take the 2016 Brussels bombings on the 22nd of March. Some 20 or 30 years ago it would have taken days to acquire the full amount of information and it would have been presented only in a written form. Nowadays, due to the Internet, minutes after the explosion people uploaded videos from the Brussels airport on YouTube and other news sites uploaded the latest news as soon as they were received and confirmed by officials. Accordingly, we are not only given information faster, but in a variety of forms that contribute to the credibility of the given information.

People can stay informed on what is happening in Asia, Africa, in Americas and in the Middle East. They also have an advantage in terms of traveling. Media can warn tourists faster, provide safety and save precious time especially when it comes to terrorist acts.

Young people are eager users of technology, especially when it makes their schoolwork easier. 93% of students search online rather than go to the library, and Wikipedia is the most used research resource. 90% of faculty are using social media in courses they are teaching. 32% of students in higher education are taking at least one online course (3). The new web technology has made it easy for students to get the skills they need to progress in society. They can refer to larger numbers of topics in a lesser time and the graphics and animations make the study material much more interesting than those in traditional books. Teachers find it easy to give assignments on computer and track progress of their students. This type of "online education" saves time which can be used to either deepen already existing skills or acquire new skills or information.

Now, unlike in the past, people can download books, articles or reviews, they can study languages on specialized sites. On *Duolingo*, for example, we can study popular languages like Spanish, German or French, but also less popular like Welsh, the Scandinavian languages and others. These sites can teach us to read, write, listen and speak while using information provided by native speakers, unlike most teachers in high schools or universities. Also, they help learning the grammar in an active, entertaining way.

The Internet blurs lines between countries and continents. People can easily communicate with each other while being thousands of kilometers apart. The World Wide Web makes it possible to find friends and bond with people from all over the world. Everyone can become a part of an event on another continent or do business on an international scale. The Internet provides an outlet for creativity which is especially appreciated by young people. They can promote their poetry, artworks, photos and thus attain popularity they would have never had otherwise.

The impact of the World Wide Web cannot be underestimated in the present world. Modern society becomes more and more dependent on computer networks. All critical components of the national infrastructure such as telecommunication, electric power grids, gas and oil storage, water supply systems, banking and finance, transportation and emergency services are connected to the cyberspace in some form. This makes the Internet an important security concern not only to those in government but to all of us, for our personal individual security and well-being. In the modern world the potential for a cyberspace attack is high and the rate of cyber vandalism is on the rise. Computer scientists say that this rise is an indication of the poor state of our cyberspace security and the vulnerability of all cyberspace resources (5). All predictions are that they are likely to continue.

Cyber criminals focus their attacks on businesses, both large and small. Hackers may attempt to take over company servers to steal information or use the machines for their own purposes, requiring companies to hire staff and update software to keep intruders out. A study of large companies (5) found an average expenditure of 8.9 million dollars per year on security. 100% of firms report that at least one malware incident in the preceding 12 months and 71% report the hijacking of company computers by outsiders. Cyber criminals have developed new techniques involving mobile devices and social networks to keep their illicit gains flowing.

The overall monetary losses from cyber crime can be immense. More than 1.5 million people fall victim to some sort of cyber crime every day, ranging from simple password theft to extensive monetary swindles (6).

Since we cannot stop computer technology that causes these problems, we need a plan of action that will work with the changing computer technology and at the same time deal

with the ethical issues that arise. In our opinion, people need specialized computer ethics education in order to contribute to society and human well-being, avoid harm to others, to respect the privacy of others, be fair and trustworthy.

Professional responsibilities of all those specialists who work in the field of computing should include their intentions: – to achieve the highest quality in everything they do; – to acquire and maintain professional competence; – to know and respect existing laws pertaining to professional work; – to honour contracts and agreements and, of course, – improve public understanding of computing and its consequences. Computer users and computer professionals should be prepared to deal effectively with all ethical issues that arise in their places of work and everywhere else computers and computer-related technologies are used.

Conclusion

1. The Internet impacts nearly every aspect of modern society and serves as a powerful economic stimulator. Contemporary social media provide an easy way of keeping in touch with a wide variety of people. Online communication has become virtually indispensable element of many people's lives. It offers many advantages to businesses, allowing them to position themselves in ways that traditional methods did not allow and at a fraction of the cost.

2. Despite all the advantages and benefits of rapid online communication and social media, they have a dark side. Because of the speed and extensions of social networking, assertions of dubious accuracy can be posted, thereby requiring considerable effort to correct. Privacy is another concern. Anything people post instantly goes into the public realm and may stay there for weeks, months, or even years.

3. Our society is increasingly becoming dependent on an infrastructure and technology that it does not fully understand. To cope with the situation, long-term plans and mechanisms should be worked out to better educate the public. The nation has to understand the seriousness of cyber vandalism.

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