

TRAINING ON THE USE OF MENDELEY TO IMPROVE TEACHER COMPETENCY

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the community service is to deliver training to teachers at SDN Ratu Jaya 4 Cipayung Depok on the significance of generating high-quality scientific writing. This program specifically allows learners to directly experience writing scientific articles utilizing Mendeley software for referencing in written works. Mendeley is a software application created by Elsevier that facilitates the organization and dissemination of academic papers, enables the exploration of research data, and supports online collaboration. Mendeley software can automatically build citations and reference lists (bibliography) for writing created using Microsoft Word, Open Office, or LaTeX. In order to accomplish the objectives and aims of this community service initiative (PPM), organizers employ instructional techniques such as lectures, discussions, and practical exercises. This approach ensures that training participants can readily comprehend the information presented throughout the training sessions. The teachers participated in the conducted activities. The participants exhibited a high level of engagement and enthusiasm during the activity, indicating a favorable response. In addition, they perceived the training as highly beneficial in enhancing their effectiveness as educators and in producing more scholarly papers with the Mendeley tool.

Keywords: mendeley, teacher competency, scientific writing

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari pengabdian kepada masyarakat ini adalah untuk memberikan pelatihan kepada guru-guru di SDN Ratu Jaya 4 Cipayung Depok tentang pentingnya menghasilkan karya tulis ilmiah yang berkualitas. Program ini secara khusus memungkinkan peserta didik merasakan langsung penulisan artikel ilmiah dengan memanfaatkan software Mendeley sebagai referensi dalam karya tulis. Mendeley adalah aplikasi perangkat lunak yang dibuat oleh Elsevier yang memfasilitasi pengorganisasian dan penyebaran makalah akademis, memungkinkan eksplorasi data penelitian, dan mendukung kolaborasi online. Perangkat lunak Mendeley dapat secara otomatis membangun kutipan dan daftar referensi (bibliografi) untuk tulisan yang dibuat menggunakan Microsoft Word, Open Office, atau LaTeX. Untuk mencapai maksud dan tujuan kegiatan pengabdian kepada masyarakat (PPM) ini, penyelenggara menggunakan teknik pembelajaran seperti ceramah, diskusi, dan latihan praktek. Pendekatan ini memastikan bahwa peserta pelatihan dapat dengan mudah memahami informasi yang disajikan sepanjang sesi pelatihan. Para guru ikut serta dalam kegiatan yang dilakukan. Para peserta menunjukkan tingkat keterlibatan dan antusiasme yang tinggi selama kegiatan, yang menunjukkan respon yang baik. Selain itu, mereka menganggap pelatihan ini sangat bermanfaat dalam meningkatkan efektivitas mereka sebagai pendidik dan dalam menghasilkan lebih banyak makalah ilmiah dengan Mendeley.

Kata kunci: mendeley, kemampuan guru, karya tulis ilmiah

INTRODUCTION

The significance of professional development for elementary school teachers should not be overlooked. Teachers have a pivotal part in the education and learning process, which directly impacts the quality of education children receive. Based on statistics from the Ministry of Education and Culture (2021), enhancing the quality of education in Indonesia is closely linked to the

implementation of teacher professional development as a crucial strategy.

Teacher professional development is an ongoing and methodical process aimed at enhancing teacher competence and performance in fulfilling their responsibilities. Teacher professional development encompasses a range of activities aimed at enhancing teachers' professional knowledge, abilities, and attitudes, as stated by Darling-Hammond and Richardson (2009). Teacher professional development is influenced by factors such as school support, resource availability, and individual motivation.

Professional development initiatives for primary school teachers may encompass several methods such as training, workshops, seminars, and mentorship programs. Training teachers on the utilization of technology in education can assist them in incorporating digital technologies into the learning process. Furthermore, the implementation of mentoring programs that involve experienced and novice teachers helps foster a cooperative and nurturing educational atmosphere. Teacher professional development encompasses a range of areas, including enhancing pedagogical expertise, knowledge of instructional resources, and proficiency in doing research and scholarly writing. In addition to that, many initiatives have been undertaken to enhance the competence of educators, including pursuing further studies, participating in seminars, and publishing scholarly articles.

Indonesia is making progress in scientific publishing. Scientific papers are the outcome of formulating ideas and implementing technologies acquired via the research process (Kurniadi, 2017). Effective scientific research must adhere to proper writing conventions. This is significant because scientific research serves as a vehicle for advancing knowledge in the fields of science, technology, and art indefinitely. Scientific work holds significant significance as it serves as a point of reference for other researchers. This is because scientific work elucidates occurring phenomena and disseminates the results in a logical and systematic manner (Ilfiandra, Suherman, Akhmad, Budiamin, & Setiawati, 2016).

Proficient writing skills are essential for teachers, particularly when it comes to composing scientific papers. To initiate the writing process, a teacher can begin with a straightforward and casual approach, such as maintaining a journal or diary documenting daily events (Santosa, 2002).

In order to enhance a teacher's ability to produce scientific work, teacher professional development is being utilized more frequently in conjunction with the advancement of the digital age. Technology has a crucial role in education, particularly in facilitating teacher professional development. Koehler and Mishra (2009) conducted study that demonstrates how technology can enhance teaching efficacy, foster cooperation, and expand access to a broader array of educational resources. Teacher professional development can use technology applications such as e-learning platforms, digital classroom management, and research tools like Mendeley.

Technology not only facilitates information retrieval, but also offers a range of instruments that can enhance effectiveness and efficiency in professional development. Mendeley is a pertinent tool in this situation. It is an academic social network and reference management program specifically created to aid in scientific research and writing. Mendeley enables users to efficiently organize and oversee references, facilitate study sharing, and engage in collaborative efforts with fellow researchers throughout the globe.

To meet the requirements of publishing in approved and international journals, it is necessary to write articles using the Mendeley program. Mendeley is a widely used application that serves as a bibliographic management tool, boasting a user base in the millions (Costas, Zahedi, & Wouters, 2015). Mendeley software is a tool for managing references that facilitates the organization of

scientific articles through the creation of citations and bibliographies (Pahmi et al., 2018). Mendeley software has several advantages, including facilitating study organization, enabling online collaboration with fellow scholars, providing access to the most recent papers, and functioning as a reference database. Mendeley is a software tool used for managing references, facilitating research sharing, and enabling collaboration among researchers. Mendeley's origins and evolution demonstrate its status as a highly favored reference management program among academics and researchers. Mendeley offers essential functionalities such as managing references, annotating PDFs, and engaging in academic social networking. Utilizing Mendeley within an educational setting can assist educators in effectively organizing citations, conducting scholarly investigations, and composing scientific manuscripts.

Mendeley is renowned among scholars and scientists for its exceptional use in managing references and facilitating scientific writing. Nevertheless, the adoption of Mendeley by elementary school instructors remains very restricted. Indeed, by possessing a thorough comprehension and proficiency in utilizing Mendeley, educators can enhance their capabilities in carrying out research and scholarly writing, so bolstering their professional growth.

Many teachers at SDN Ratu Jaya 4 Cipayung Depok encounter challenges and obstacles when it comes to composing scientific papers, including producing research papers or articles for publication in a magazine. In response to the aforementioned issues, the implementation team organized training sessions to educate individuals on utilizing Mendeley to enhance their teaching career.

METHODS

This community service initiative is implemented through a series of systematic procedures, which involve the following steps:

1. Visit partners and engage in dialogues that include interviews to gather data on the present situation and the most commonly encountered challenges faced by the partners.
2. Conducting outreach initiatives to familiarize partners with the proposed solutions to their issues.
3. Delivering content via socialization using the Microsoft Power Point application, packaged in a clear and engaging manner to ensure easy comprehension for activity participants.

Establish a platform for activity participants to engage in effective communication, posing questions and providing answers, with the aim of generating optimal solutions to address participant issues related to the activity's theme. Conducting community service initiatives by delivering training sessions focused on socializing the use of Mendeley to enhance teacher professional development at SDN Ratu Jaya 4 Cipayung Depok, involving a total of 15 teachers.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A 2-day training session was conducted to teach participants how to effectively utilize Mendeley. The training covered several topics including an introduction to Mendeley, reference management, PDF annotation, and cooperation through academic social networks. Fifteen primary school teachers participated in this workshop.

At the onset of the training session, educators were provided with a comprehensive overview of the advantages of Mendeley and instructions on how to utilize Mendeley effectively. The team provided motivation with the goal of encouraging teachers to consistently update their

knowledge and information, thereby enhancing their understanding and ability to write scientific papers. This awareness was crucial for improving their overall quality. Utilizing Mendeley as a reference for writing scientific papers can assist teachers in the process of writing and organizing scientific articles.

Initially, teachers encountered challenges in installing the Mendeley application on their individual laptops due to intermittent internet connectivity and their lack of familiarity with managing the application. Nevertheless, the staff made an effort to assist the teachers in order to ensure that all participants were able to successfully install Mendeley on their own devices.

Subsequently, the team demonstrated on an interactive screen the process of utilizing Mendeley to incorporate citations and a bibliography. The participants' earnestness in comprehending the operation of Mendeley further enhanced the productivity of the activity. Participants frequently inquire and seek assistance when encountering technological challenges. Over time, individuals experienced the advantages of utilizing the Mendeley application.

Training participants experience enhanced proficiency in reference management, improved research capabilities, and more aptitude for writing scientific publications in a structured manner. The questionnaire results indicated that 90% of participants found this training highly valuable and applicable to their professional development, particularly in the context of producing scientific documents such as research proposals or journal publications.

Evidence of the influence of training on teacher professional growth is seen through modifications in teaching methodology and enhanced research aptitude. A significant majority of participants, up to 85%, expressed an increased level of confidence in utilizing scientific references for teaching purposes. Additionally, 80% of participants indicated a higher level of motivation to engage in research activities and produce scientific papers.

The findings of this study align with prior studies indicating that the utilization of technology might facilitate the professional growth of teachers (Koehler & Mishra, 2009). The findings of this study suggest that providing training in the utilization of Mendeley can be a successful approach to enhancing the professional growth of primary school educators.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this study indicate that providing training in the utilization of Mendeley yields notable advantages for primary school educators, particularly in enhancing their proficiency in reference management and research proficiency. This training also has a beneficial influence on teacher professional development, as seen by alterations in teaching methodologies and heightened enthusiasm to engage in research.

Recommendations for implementing Mendeley training in primary schools include:

1. Establish a consistent schedule for training sessions to enable ongoing enhancement of teacher competencies.
2. Engage additional educators in training to broaden its favorable influence.
3. Carry out additional research to assess the enduring effects of this training on the professional growth of teachers.

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