

STATISTICAL EDUCATION SYSTEM FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICIANS IN KOREA

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The Statistical Training Institute (STI) operates under the Statistics Korea (KOSTAT) and is the only national agency which offers statistical education. Mission of the STI is to nurture statistical experts and raise understanding of statistics. This paper will introduce a variety of curriculum offered by STI and e-learning which is actively operated.

Based on a demand survey (contents, courses, targets and so on) which is usually conducted at the end of the year, the STI makes decisions about what courses are to be conducted and the number of trainees that are to be educated in the coming year. Organizations wanting to participate in statistics-related courses should send an official letter to the STI one month before the courses start. This process enables the STI to secure the number of trainees prior to commencement. While this system allows the STI to achieve quantitative education performance, it does not produce high quality educational outcomes because of the difficulty that trainees have to choose the correct course level. In order to resolve this problem, the STI ensures that KOSTAT officials complete required courses and optional courses by the ranking order in the office.

Thanks to advanced information technology and Internet infrastructure, educational methods for statistics are open to new possibilities. Internet-based e-learning courses can be repeatedly taken regardless of time or place. Also, professors can check the contents of courses and balance the demands of trainees. We operate 25 e-learning courses, as well as other services. Among them, 'Open study room' is available to anyone connected to the e-Learning Center where visitors can enjoy open courses and recorded-courses such as 'statistics lecture for ordinary people', 'Statistics and English', and 'e-book'.

This study discusses a regular curriculum, customer-oriented courses (designed through consultation about time, subjects, and places with a demanding organization), statistical seminars (highly-advanced courses for experts) and e-learning courses for official Statisticians in Korea.

REFERENCES

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