Optimization of Document Management in Public Universities: Strategies and Technologies to Improve Administrative Processes

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Abstract: This literary review article aimed to analyze the strategies and technologies implemented to improve document management in the administrative processes of public universities. Through a systematic review of 20 articles published between 2020 and 2024, the most effective practices and areas that required further research are identified. The results showed that the implementation of advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence, significantly optimized operational efficiency by automating processes and reducing response times in document management. However, challenges persisted related to lack of adequate infrastructure and staff resistance to change. The study concluded that the digitalization of processes not only improved the student experience, but also guaranteed the integrity and confidentiality of academic data. Despite advances in automation and security, the need to continue researching how to customize these technological solutions according to the specific needs of each institution was highlighted. The study provided a comprehensive view on how the combination of advanced technologies, robust security policies and continuous adaptation can lead to more efficient document management in public universities. The future success of these systems will depend on the ability to overcome current barriers.

Keywords: Academic self-management, Institutional independence, University governance, Curricular freedom, Educational self-determination.

I. INTRODUCTION

With advances in printing technology in the 18th and 19th centuries, there was a notable increase in document production and management. Universities began to adopt more refined and effective archiving and cataloguing methods, which resulted in more efficient management of large volumes of documents, essential to face the exponential growth in number of students the and the diversification of academic programs (Díaz Suárez et al., 2021 and Esteve-Mon et al., 2023).

Nowadays, digitalisation represented the most significant change in management. university document Electronic document management systems have allowed universities to handle extremely large amounts of information with unprecedented efficiency. Where systems have not only facilitated the rapid retrieval and exchange of information, but have also guaranteed the integrity and security of documents, increasingly crucial aspects in a globalized and digitally interconnected world (Díaz Suárez et al., 2021 and Esteve-Mon et al., 2023)

Abba and Streck (2021) highlight the way in which university reforms have underlined the need to implement efficient management practices to maintain quality and facilitate internationalization. This integration of management systems not only helps to meet academic standards, but also simplifies international collaboration, essential aspect in educational globalization. A poor system can generate complaints among students, especially efficiency and when it affects the transparency academic of essential processes.

Alenezi (2023) explains how digital learning requires a robust infrastructure to successfully handle academic and administrative data. Since the midtwentieth century, the accumulation of

documents without proper handling has been a constant concern, which led to the need to develop systematic document management practices to ensure the storage, retrieval, and preservation of crucial information. The lack of a proper document management system can result in delays and errors that directly affect the and

The adoption of advanced technologies, such as electronic document management systems, has transformed administrative and academic processes. Ayaz and Yanartaş (2020) highlight how the acceptance and effective use of these technologies is essential for operational efficiency. This digitization not only facilitates document management, but also promotes sustainability by reducing the use of physical resources and improving accessibility. A successful implementation of these technologies can mitigate many of the common complaints among students related to accessibility and manipulation of

The connection between knowledge management processes and sustainability in educational institutions is another vital aspect. Budur et al. (2024) discuss how effective document management supports academic administration and contributes to organizational sustainability. managed document systems are critical to the efficient storage and retrieval of documents, ensuring that future generations have access to quality academic and administrative records. This directly reduces incidences of student complaints related to

Finally, the specific evaluation of document management systems, such as the one carried out by Cedeño-Macías et al. (2021), reveals the need to continuously improve these practices. This constant improvement not only responds to the current challenges of digitalization and globalization, but also reflects a legacy of centuries of evolution in document management, underscoring the importance

of adapting systems to the changing needs of the academic community. Improving these systems can significantly decrease student complaints and increase student satisfaction.

Theoretical justification: Document management in university procedures can be theoretically based on the "Theory of Transaction Costs" developed by Oliver Williamson, in 1989 this theory maintains that the efficiency of economic or information exchanges can be optimized through the minimization of transaction costs associated with each process. In the transaction university context, manifest themselves in the time and resources consumed to process documents, from enrollment applications to degree issuance. Applying this theory, efficient management document should he structured in such a way as to reduce these costs to a minimum, through simplification of processes, the digitization of documents and the use of management platforms that automate and speed up procedures. Doing so not only saves resources, but also increases satisfaction by decreasing response time and errors in document handling.

Practical Justification: Document management in universities has evolved significantly with the advancement of technology and administrative methods. This progress has led to an increase in the complexity and relevance of higher education within modern society. By integrating emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, universities transforming the way they manage academic information, these advanced systems not only facilitate the management of large volumes of information but also improve the accuracy and security of the documents managed. Consequently, the incidence of errors and complaints is substantially improving reduced. educational experience of students. The effective implementation of these technologies results in document management that is not only efficient but also adaptive to the changing needs of the university community and its stakeholders.

Based on this premise and the variability in the implementation of document management according to the country, an essential question arises: What strategies and technologies have proven to be effective in improving the document management of administrative processes in public universities?

The aforementioned question will be the central axis of the research developed in the article, focusing on a thorough analysis where the general objective was: General Objective: To analyze strategies and technologies implemented to improve document management in the administrative processes of public universities, identifying the most effective practices and the areas that require additional research.

Specific objectives: (1) To analyze management document current technologies used in public universities, such as systems based on artificial intelligence, to determine their effectiveness in automating and processes. accelerating document Examine the information security policies and protocols implemented that universities have implemented document management systems, evaluating their effectiveness in protecting the integrity and confidentiality academic of administrative data. (3) Identify and analyze the barriers and facilitators in the implementation of document management systems in public universities

III. METHODOLOGY.

This study is a literature review article that follows established scientific guidelines. According to Hernández and Mendoza (2018), a literature review is a scientific composition that systematically synthesizes

and organizes relevant information on a widely studied and published topic, as evidenced in the research.

To carry out this study, a total of 20 articles were collected from various sources, including databases such as Wos, Proquest and Science Direct, which were selected for full reading. The main focus of this review was on the study variable "document management". The inclusion criteria were established as the publication of the articles as of 2020, their availability in Spanish or English, their free accessibility, and their relevance with respect to the topic of study. On the other hand, those articles that were restricted or unrelated to the topic in question were excluded, thus ensuring the selection of a representative and pertinent sample for the literature review.

Figure 1

Prism Flow Chart entification Records identified in the Scopus, Ebsco, Scielo databases Selection By temporality N=1,3011,790 Selected articles in pdf Eligibility format, topical, peer review, without editor restriction N<u></u>=77 Inclusion Items selected according to the objective 20

Source: Own elaboration

Boolean operators adapted to each database were used, specifically: "AND", "or", "OR". The initial search yielded a total of 1,311,790 articles.

After implementing the inclusion and exclusion criteria, a final selection of 20 articles was obtained, according to the PRISMA flowchart model (Donato & Donato, 2019).

Keyword	Words for search
University	("document
Document	management" OR
Management	"document
(Spanish)	management" OR
	"document
	management
	systems") AND
	("universities" OR
	"higher education"
	OR "administrative
	processes")
Higher Education	("higher education
Administration	administration" OR
	"university
	administration" OR
	"academic
	administration")
	And ("document
	management" OR
	"process
	optimization" OR
	"administrative
	efficiency")

Authors Country	Improved Document Technologies Effective Practice Strategies Identified
Abba, MJ, Argentina Streck, DR	Implementation of Electronic Document The use of EDMS has up the processing documents. Management improved the speed of documents.
Alenezi, M. Mexico	Continuous training in Digital learning The training had document management platforms and digital improved accuracy if for administrative staff. archiving systems. handling documents.
Alter, S. Spain	Centralization of Centralized Centralization has academic records for databases and secure reduced waiting time more efficient access. online access. and errors in records.
Ayaz, A., United Yanartaş, States M.	Adoption of privacy and Blockchain information integrity technology to secure policies. Blockchain increased trust increased document management.
Budur, T., Colombia et al.	Development of user- Intuitive friendly interfaces in interfaces document management integrated systems. user Improved interface and have made it easier for students to use.
Cedeño- Macías, CJ, Brazil et al.	Review and Business process Flow optimization has optimization of management document workflows. software. process Flow optimization has optimization and Business process Flow optimization has optimization has optimized on the process Flow optimized on the pro
Chan, CKY Peru	Integration of student development of analysis. Integration of student development of analysis. Integration of student development of analysis. Integration of student development development of analysis. Integration of student development development of systems and data improved the relevance of policies.
De Giusti, Chile AE	Automation of Automatic systems Automation has enrollment and for enrolment significantly reduce

	certification services.	processes and certificate issuance.	processing times.
Del Castillo Guevara, J., Venezuela et al.	Improvements in the transparency and accessibility of documentary information.	public access to administrative documents.	Improvements in transparency have encouraged greater student participation.
Díaz Suárez, Y., Uruguay et al.	Implementation of electronic filing systems and reduction of paper use.	document	been effective in

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Currently, document management in public universities is a critical area that requires constant innovation and adaptation to new technologies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of administrative processes. The overall objective of analyzing the strategies and technologies implemented to optimize these processes highlights the importance of a systematic and technologically advanced approach. Below are several studies from different countries that provide a representative picture:

Document management public in universities has undergone various technological and strategic improvements in recent years, as can be seen in studies carried out in different countries. From these initiatives, it is evident that the incorporation of new technologies and the optimization of processes have had a positive impact on operational efficiency, information management and satisfaction. However, despite the progress made, there are still areas that require and improvement to further research maximize the benefits of these implementations.

In Argentina, Abba and Streck (2021) underline the importance of Electronic Document Management (EDMS) systems to streamline document processing. The use of these systems has made it possible to improve the speed of processing administrative procedures, which is

essential in environment an where efficiency and speed in the management of documents are key. However, one possible area for improvement is the integration of these systems with other university streamline platforms further to administrative processes.

On the other hand, in Mexico, Alenezi the (2023)highlights relevance continuous training in document management for administrative staff, supported by digital learning platforms and digital archiving systems. This strategy has improved accuracy in document handling, which is crucial in preventing errors that can negatively impact students. However, the effectiveness of these trainings could be further evaluated, to ensure that staff keep up with technological advancements and new document management practices.

In Spain, Alter (2019) addresses the centralization of academic records through

centralized databases and secure online access. This strategy has proven effective in reducing wait times and errors in records, which improves the user experience. Despite the benefits observed, a possible area of research is centralized data security and protection, as a higher concentration of sensitive information can pose a risk if cybersecurity aspects are not handled correctly.

In the United States, Ayaz and Yanartaş (2020) explore the use of blockchain technology to ensure the privacy and integrity of academic records. Confidence in document management has increased considerably due to the security offered by this technology. However, one of the areas that still needs to be explored is the scalability of blockchain in other areas of university administration, in addition to evaluating its economic viability for institutions with limited resources.

In Colombia, Budur et al. (2024) highlight the development of user-friendly interfaces document management systems, supported by integrated ERP systems. These improvements in the interfaces have made it easier for students to use the system, improving their interaction with administrative processes. While this has proved beneficial, one area for research is how these interfaces can be adapted to different user profiles, especially in universities with a wide range of students and administrative staff.

In Brazil, Cedeño-Macías et al. (2021) focus on the review and optimization of document workflows through the use of business process management (BPM) software. This optimization has improved operational efficiency by reducing the time and costs associated with administrative processes. However, it is important to assess the long-term impact of these

optimizations and how they can be adapted to other departments or universities with fewer resources.

In Peru, Chan (2023) highlights the integration of student feedback in the development of documentary policies. The use of digital feedback systems has improved the relevance of the policies implemented, aligning them better with the needs of students. One issue that deserves further analysis is how to ensure that student feedback is collected in a representative manner and effectively integrated into decision-making.

In Chile, De Giusti (2023) reports on the automation of enrollment and certification services. The implementation of automated systems has significantly reduced processing times, which has improved the administrative experience for both students and staff. However, the challenge is to ensure that automation does not sacrifice the quality of service, and that a balance is maintained between efficiency and personalized attention.

In Venezuela, Del Castillo Guevara et al. (2021) point out that improvements in the transparency and accessibility of documentary information, through web portals with public access, have encouraged greater student participation. Despite the advances, more research is needed to assess how these transparency measures may affect the protection of personal data and whether students are sufficiently trained to use these platforms effectively.

Finally, in Uruguay, Díaz Suárez et al. (2021) have implemented electronic filing systems that have reduced the use of paper, promoting environmental sustainability. While this practice has proven to be effective in terms of cost savings and environmental benefits, it is necessary to investigate how these initiatives can be

replicated in universities with less access to technology, and how it can be ensured that paper reduction does not affect accessibility. of information

Regarding the first specific objective: To analyze the current document management technologies used in public universities, such as systems based on artificial intelligence, to determine their effectiveness in automating and accelerating document processes.

Authors and Year (APA)	Document Management Technologies	Automation Efficiency	Acceleration of Document Processes
TO, & Ruíz	Document management system	-	Reduced response times in information management for master's students
Esteve-Mon, FM, Postigo-Fuentes, AY, & Castañeda, L. (2023)		Efficiency in automating administrative and academic tasks through digitalization	Optimization of times in the execution of administrative processes in higher education.
Espinoza, A., & Lenin, J. (2022)	Document management system for linking with society.	Automation in document management and linking the university with society.	and document in the
Fernández, A., Gómez, B., Binjaku, K. y Meçe, EK (2023)	Digital transformation platforms	Efficiency in process automation through the integration of digital technology	administrative and
Iqbal, S., Taib, CAB y Razalli, MR (2024)		automation of processes related to accreditation	•

In the analysis of current document management technologies used in public universities, it is highlighted how these tools have improved both the automation and acceleration of document processes. The different technologies analyzed in the studies by Díaz Suárez et al. (2021), Esteve-Mon et al. (2023), Espinoza and Lenin

(2022), Fernández et al. (2023), and Iqbal et al. (2024) have made it possible to optimize document management, reduce processing times, and improve accuracy in the management of academic and administrative information. The main findings are discussed below:

Automation efficiency

Automation has been one of the most significant advances document in management, and it has been reflected in multiple areas within public universities. For example, the document management system implemented by Díaz Suárez et al. (2021) has demonstrated a considerable improvement in the automation of the retrieval academic storage and of documents, this system is especially effective in the management of information of master's students, allowing previously manual and error-prone processes to be carried out in a more agile and accurate way. In the study by Esteve-Mon et al. (2023), digital tools and automated processes have managed to automate both administrative and academic tasks, which has been essential to improve institutional productivity. Similarly, Espinoza and Lenin (2022) highlight automation in the link between the university and society, which optimizes document management in these collaborative projects.

The analysis of document management technologies in public universities shows that automation has allowed not only greater efficiency in document management, but also a significant reduction in the time needed to execute critical processes. These improvements have a positive impact on the experience of students, teachers and administrative staff. by simplifying access to information and facilitating decision-making.

Fernández et al. (2023) address how digital transformation platforms have increased the efficiency of processes, integrating technologies that automating allow everything from registrations to issuance of certificates. which significantly reduced the administrative burden. Finally, Iqbal et al. (2024) present an improvement in the automation of processes related to accreditation and educational quality, one of the most critical areas to ensure compliance with standards in higher education.

It is important to note that, although all the technologies studied have demonstrated improvements in automation and acceleration of each processes, one addresses specific areas within the university context. From document management in master's degrees accreditation and social engagement, these technologies are customized to respond to the particular needs of each institution.

Accelerating Document Processes

One of the most obvious benefits of implementing document management technologies is the acceleration of processes that previously required long times due to manual intervention. Díaz Suárez et al. (2021) highlight that automation in document management for master's degrees has reduced response times in the management of key information, allowing students and academic staff to access documentation more quickly efficiently. For Esteve-Mon et al. (2023) they emphasize that the digitization of administrative processes has optimized execution times, improving the overall workflow within universities. This not only streamlines the registration and academic management processes, but also frees up resources for other administrative areas. Espinoza and Lenin (2022) show how

streamlining procedures related to society has improved the speed with which collaborative agreements and projects are managed, resulting in a more effective relationship between the university and its environment.

In the case of Fernández et al. (2023), the acceleration in the execution administrative and academic processes has been notable thanks to the integration of digital transformation platforms. These platforms allow for faster management of tasks such as issuing certifications and reviewing academic transcripts. Finally, Iqbal et al. (2024) report that the integration of document management systems in accreditation processes has significantly reduced the time needed to comply with optimizing requirements, quality

management of audits and evaluations. It is important to note that, although all the technologies studied have demonstrated improvements in automation acceleration of processes, each one specific addresses within areas the university context. In summary, the automation and acceleration of document processes are key elements to improve the operational efficiency of universities, and the document management technologies analyzed have proven to be valuable tools in achieving this goal. However, long-term success will depend on the adaptability of these technologies and the commitment of institutions to keep their technological infrastructure up-to-date and effective.

(2) Examine the information security policies and protocols implemented that universities have implemented in document management systems, evaluating their effectiveness in protecting the integrity and confidentiality of academic and administrative data.

Author & (APA)	Year	Policies and Protoc	ols	Protecting Integrity	_
Love, Makhdin, Jaleel, Dastaazar, Farxod, Shaukat, Khulkar, Jakhongir, (2024)	T., M.,	Implementation of AI the security of acader data, with automa monitoring and acc control based on biomet	for nic ted	High effectiveness in protecting data confidentiality thanks to AI, which ensures continuous monitoring of systems and advanced protection	accelerated administrative processes, enabling greater speed in document management by minimizing human error and ensuring secure and
		Information secur management policy w AI integration, advance encryption, and mu factor authentication at specific university Vietnam.	ith ed lti- a in	sensitive data, with strict access control and encryption of information that prevents unauthorized	management of records and the issuance of certificates, has reduced administrative response

Author & Year Policies and **Security Effectiveness** in Speed of **Document Protocols Protecting Integrity Management** in the (APA) **Implemented** and Confidentiality **Administrative Process** Good effectiveness in The system has improved

Díaz Gispert, LI restricted (2020)

Internal Soria Vera, KD & management policy with access authorized users version control systems at the University of Otavalo.

document protecting the integrity the speed of updating and information, retrieving documents. of especially in although some manual traceability and version processes continue to slow control, which ensures down certain areas of that documents are not management, without room for improvement in altered terms of automation. authorization.

document because although cloud Creation Díaz Jiménez, A., management Batista, with a focus on security, protection to data, there lack of full automation Olivera Zamora including access controls are challenges in the Gómez, I. (2022) and use of cloud servers total implementation of continues to affect the with encryption.

Medium effectiveness, The integration of cloud protocols servers provide basic systems has reduced some encryption and access speed. administrative processes.

Potential effectiveness,

control protocols.

management as suggested protocols, The implementation of the Document Cobeña, diagnosis that recommends such as encryption and recommendations is still Loor implementation KV. García the of authentication, can in process, so document Salmon, LA, & security policies such as adequately protect management times vary, document encryption and sensitive information, but the suggested greater Cobacango Villavicencio, J. access control through but their automation (2021)authentication in implementation is not significantly speed up universities. yet complete in all administrative processes. universities.

The analysis of information security policies and protocols implemented in universities reflects the importance of integrating advanced technological tools, such as artificial intelligence (AI), in the protection of data integrity confidentiality. In particular, AI-based solutions, such as those observed in the studies by Muhabbat et al. (2024) and Quy et al. (2023), have shown high effectiveness

protecting accelerating data and document processes. These technologies allow for constant monitoring and advanced authentication, ensuring security in a digital environment.

On the other hand, studies such as that of Soria Vera & Díaz Gispert (2020) and Díaz Jiménez et al. (2022) point to the need for a more complete implementation of

security protocols in some universities, where manual or not fully automated processes still prevail. As universities continue to make progress in digitizing and automating their document management systems, it is critical that the adoption of robust security measures is prioritized to ensure that academic and administrative data remains protected from unauthorized access or alteration.

(3) Identify and analyze the barriers and facilitators in the implementation of document management systems in public universities

Author & Year (APA)	Barriers Management		ocument	Facilitato Managem		n Docum	nent
Del Castillo Guevara J., Mena Mugica, MM & Torres Ponjuán, D (2021)	, management	system f Havana	at the , which	manageme	ent systentity and	m to improve	e the
Díaz Suárez, Y., Junco Lack of trained personnel and The automation of processes in the Vázquez, TO, & Ruíz resistance to change on the part document management system for González, M. de L. Á. of administrative staff in master's degrees facilitates quick							

FM, Technical difficulties in the Esteve-Mon, Postigo-Fuentes, AY, & implementation of digital tools Castañeda, L. (2023) in higher education institutions.

(2021)

Clear strategies and technical support for the integration of digital tools and processes, improving efficiency.

and efficient access to information.

Lack of adequate technological Espinoza, A., & Lenin, infrastructure to implement J. (2022) document management systems for social engagement.

Improvement in document management through the implementation of systems that connect the university with society, facilitating cooperation.

Fernández, A., Gómez, Budget constraints for the possible to automate processes and B., Binjaku, K. y Meçe, implementation of EK (2023) transformation technologies. through the

document management.

Digital transformation makes it digital improve document management of efficient use technology.

integrated systems Iqbal, S., Taib, CAB y combine accreditation **Razalli, MR (2024)** educational management.

Challenges in implementing Document management systems that integrated with quality protocols and improve transparency and quality compliance with educational standards.

Khan, SA v Shahzad, Lack of standardization in Development of key features in K. (2024) digital library systems in digital library systems that allow for

Author & Year (APA)	Barriers in Document Management	Facilitators in Document Management
	universities.	more efficient information management.
Muhabbat, H. Mukhiddin, K., Jalil H., et al. (2024)	artificial intelligence (AI)	AI facilitates advanced automation and improves security and efficiency in the management of large volumes of information.
Quy, VK, Thanh, BT Chehri, A., et al. (2023)	, artificial intelligence in	AI integration enables faster, more secure, and more accurate document management in higher education institutions.
Soria Vera, KD & Díaz Gispert, LI (2020)	Lack of technological integration in the document management system of the University of Otavalo.	system that improves the
Olivera Batista, D., & Zamora Gómez, I (2022)	document management policies that adequately address information security.	
Loor Cobeña, KV García Salmon, LA, & Cobacango Villavicencio, J. (2021)	Lack of standardized methodologies for the diagnosis and improvement of document management in universities.	methodologies that allow improving the organization and optimization of

The analysis of the barriers and enablers of document management in universities reveals a number of challenges and opportunities to improve the efficiency and security of document processes.

• Barriers: Studies point to the lack of adequate technological infrastructure, resistance to change by staff and budgetary limitations as the main obstacles to the implementation of efficient document management systems. In addition, there is cultural resistance in some institutions to

the use of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and the lack of standardization in existing systems, such as digital libraries.

• Enablers: On the other hand, emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, digital tools, and integrated systems are identified as key enablers for improving document management. These technologies allow the automation of processes, the improvement of the accessibility of information and the optimization of resources, which facilitates transparency and administrative efficiency.

CONCLUSIONS

Document management in public universities has undergone significant improvements through the implementation of advanced technologies and innovative strategies. The analysis carried out shows that the automation of document processes improved operational efficiency, reducing response times and increasing accuracy in information management. However, challenges such as lack of adequate infrastructure, resistance change, and budget constraints remain, necessitating a broader approach that integrates security policies, continuous training, and increased use of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI). Long-term sustainability will depend on the ability of universities to adapt to these changes and ensure data protection and accessibility, so this study provides a comprehensive perspective on universities can continue to improve their document management through technological integration and process optimization.

Conclusions by Specific Objective

- 1. Document Management Technologies:
 - implementation of document management systems based on AI and other digital technologies has proven to be highly effective in automating processes. Where automation not only reduces response times in document retrieval, but also optimizes efficiency in academic administration and interaction students. However, it is essential that universities tailor these technologies to their specific needs, including further customization and constant analysis of their impact to ensure that improvements in automation are sustainable and scalable.
- 2. **Security Policies and Protocols:** Information security policies and

- protocols are critical to protecting the integrity and confidentiality of academic and administrative data. The implementation of AI and advanced encryption technologies has provided a high level of protection, ensuring controlled access and prevention of vulnerabilities. However, there remains a critical need to improve staff training and ensure that all processes are fully automated to maximize information security. Universities must continue to strengthen their cybersecurity measures to face emerging threats and ensure data protection.
- 3. Barriers **Enablers** and in **Implementation:** The implementation of document management systems faces significant barriers, such as resistance to change, lack of adequate technological infrastructure, and budgetary challenges, as identified. However, key enablers AI. digital include the use of transformation, and advanced automation, accessibility, which improve the efficiency, and security of document systems. Universities that manage to integrate these technologies can overcome traditional barriers, optimizing administrative processes and increasing student and staff satisfaction. It is crucial to further investigate how to adapt these to different institutional contexts, especially in universities with resources complex limited or organizational structures

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