

Professors Emeriti Network

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Professors Emeriti Network. We walk what we talk.

Why do retired academics need continued access to information technology to make ongoing contributions to their universities and society?

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Retired academics need continued access to information technology (IT) to make ongoing contributions to their universities and society for several important reasons:

Continued Research and Scholarly Contributions:

Access to Resources: IT allows retired academics to access digital libraries, databases, and online journals, which are essential for conducting research and staying updated with the latest developments in their fields.

Publication: They can publish their research findings in academic journals and other platforms, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and the academic community.

Collaboration and Networking:

Communication Tools: IT provides communication tools like email, video conferencing, and collaborative platforms, facilitating continued collaboration with colleagues, students, and researchers globally.

Virtual Conferences and Workshops: Retired academics can participate in and contribute to virtual academic conferences, workshops, and seminars.

Mentorship and Teaching:

Online Education:

With IT, retired academics can offer online courses, webinars, and guest lectures, sharing their expertise and experience with students and younger academics.

Remote Mentorship: They can mentor students and junior faculty remotely, providing guidance and support in their academic and research endeavors.

Access to University Resources:

Administrative Systems:

IT access allows retired academics to use university administrative systems for tasks such as submitting research proposals, accessing academic records, and participating in university governance.

Library Services: Continued access to university library services, including electronic books and journals, is crucial for ongoing research and teaching activities.

Grant Applications and Funding:

Research Funding:

IT enables retired academics to apply for research grants and funding, manage ongoing projects, and fulfill reporting requirements, thus contributing to the university's research output.

Professional Development and Lifelong Learning:

Staying Current:

IT access allows retired academics to stay current with new developments in their field, attend virtual professional development courses, and continue learning throughout their retirement.

Access to Online Resources: They can access webinars, online courses, and other resources to keep their knowledge and skills up to date.

Public Engagement and Knowledge Dissemination:

Digital Publishing:

IT provides platforms for retired academics to publish books, articles, and blogs, reaching a broader audience beyond the academic community.

Social Media and Online Platforms: They can engage with the public through social media, podcasts, and online forums, contributing to public understanding and discourse on various topics.

Advisory and Consulting Roles:

Strategic Input: Retired academics often take on advisory or consulting roles within their universities or in other organizations. IT access is essential for fulfilling these roles effectively, allowing them to participate in meetings, provide strategic input, and contribute their expertise.

*The source of innovation lies in the discovery of problems.
Problems in the modern world cannot be efficiently and effectively detected without
the use of information technology.
Solving a problem starts by asking the right question.*

The problem

The problem is that we don't know how many academics are cut off from university technology upon retirement.

The problem can also be framed more positively:

While there are many age-friendly universities that do not cut off retired academics from university technology, we don't know how many in total there are that allow for continued connection to university technology upon retirement.