

## **SUPPORTING LEARNING THROUGH HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTICES IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CLASSROOM: THE ERGONOMICS OPTION (TEO)**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The descriptive survey elicited responses from one hundred and ninety (190) final year computer science students who had taken courses that were predominantly computer based. A twenty two (22) item questionnaire; furniture, computer, environment, working/organizational activities (FCEWO) was the instrument used to conduct the study, having met both criteria of validity and reliability. The criterion of validity was achieved via peer review while a test-retest reliability co-efficient of 0.78 confirmed the reliability measure of the instrument. A major finding amongst others, was that the design of classroom furniture do not promote health and safety practices, hence they failed to meet ergonomic standards. On this note, a major recommendation was that management of institutions should ensure that design of classroom furniture should be of varied forms that will support the health and safety of learners in no small way.

**Keywords:** Occupational health, musculoskeletal injury, eye strain and productivity.