A STUDY ON EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNICAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS IN SUPPORTING TOWARDS LIFELONG LEARNING IN A TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

By:

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A STUDY ON EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNICAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS IN SUPPORTING TOWARDS LIFELONG LEARNING IN A TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

A project paper submitted to the College of Business in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Human Resource Management
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By:

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I hereby declared that any valuable contributions and all resources have been used as an acknowledgement to this thesis research.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the effectiveness of academic program towards supporting lifelong learning in a technical university in Malaysia. This study explored the relationship between various components in academic programs namely teaching and learning strategies, learning materials, role of instructors, course content, support system, and practical sessions; and students’ attitude towards learning and their motivation to learn. A total of 263 students from semester 2 to semester 7 in eight academic programs were surveyed. The finding reveals that the students have good perceptions on each component of the academic programs and all those components have significant relationship with the students’ attitude towards learning. It is also further learnt that the students’ motivation to learn has a very strong positive connection with the students attitude towards learning.
ABSTRAK

Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menyelidik sejauh mana keberkesanan program akademik dalam menyokong pembelajaran sepanjang hayat di salah sebuah universiti teknikal di Malaysia. Kajian ini melihat dari sudut hubungan di antara pelbagai komponen dalam program akademik iaitu strategi pengajaran dan pembelajaran, bahan mengajar, peranan pengajar, kandungan kursus, sistem sokongan, dan sesi praktikal; dengan sikap pelajar terhadap pembelajaran serta motivasi mereka untuk belajar. Sejumlah 263 pelajar dari Semester 2 hingga Semester 7 dalam lapan program telah dikaji. Hasil kajian telah menunjukkan bahawa responden mempunyai persepsi yang baik terhadap setiap komponen dalam program akademik dan kesemua komponen tersebut juga didapati mempunyai hubungan yang signifikan terhadap sikap pelajar terhadap pembelajaran. Hasil kajian juga telah membuktikan bahawa motivasi pelajar mempunyai hubungan secara positif yang sangat kuat dengan sikap pelajar terhadap pembelajaran.
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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The term of “lifelong learning” is no more an alien terminology nowadays. Most nations and leaders are now talking about its importance. Upgrading ones education to the highest level as possible is no longer a luxurious things to achieve, instead it becomes a necessity to individuals. Whereas for countries, economic growth is increasingly driven by knowledge and no country can remain competitive without applying knowledge that can boost their efficiency in producing goods and services and delivering them more effectively and at lower costs to a greater number of people (Kagia, 2002). As for the companies, employers start to realize the importance for their employees to keep pace with the speed of development of information and knowledge as well as to learn new skills in rapid changing business environment (Añonuevo, 2001). Thus, engaging seriously in lifelong learning is no longer an individual agenda, but also to companies as well as countries. Researchers (Anuwar, 2005; Daing Zaidah and Abu Daud, 2007; Erlane, Jamaliah, and Noraini, 2008) described many reasons why lifelong learning becoming so important nowadays such as rapid pace of change and globalization, economic opportunity, quality of life and security, and the development of ICT, to name a few.
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REFERENCES


