

**DETERMINANTS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION:
THE CASE OF UUM'S BUSINESS UNDERGRADUATES**

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DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis work described in this research paper is my own work (unless otherwise acknowledged in the text) and that there is no previous work which has been previously submitted for any academic Master's program. All sources quoted have been acknowledged by reference.

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ABSTRACT

Due to the inclination numbers of Malaysia's entrepreneurs nowadays, the youth have shown a great involvement in entrepreneurship and have been one of the biggest contributors to the country's economic growth. As this emergence took place, it is crucial for the related stakeholders such as government, educational agencies and policy makers to keep on encouraging the youth in Malaysia to participate in any entrepreneurship activities. Thus, it is important to understand the factors that will influence the intention to start up the business among the youth especially among university students. The main objective of this study is to analyze the relationship between risk taking propensity, family support, self-efficacy and entrepreneurship education with the entrepreneurial intention among the undergraduates under the School of Business Management, Universiti Utara Malaysia. Data was collected by using the questionnaire that has been distributed to 260 respondents; however, only 200 questionnaires have been successfully collected for the data analysis. Findings of the research revealed that only two (2) out of four variables having significant relationship with the entrepreneurial intention, which are self-efficacy and entrepreneurship education. The recommendation for the related stakeholders and future research were also discussed.

Keyword: Entrepreneurial Intention, Risk Taking Propensity, Family Support, Self-Efficacy, Entrepreneurship Education, Undergraduates

ABSTRAK

Berikutan peningkatan dalam jumlah usahawan Malaysia pada hari ini, golongan muda telah menunjukkan penglibatan yang hebat di dalam bidang keusahawanan dan telah menjadi antara penyumbang utama terhadap pertumbuhan ekonomi negara. Melihat kepada keadaan ini, adalah penting bagi pihak berkepentingan seperti kerajaan, agensi pendidikan dan penggubal polisi untuk terus menggalakkan golongan muda di Malaysia melibatkan diri dalam kegiatan keusahawanan. Oleh demikian, adalah penting untuk mengetahui faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi niat untuk memulakan perniagaan dalam golongan muda pada masa kini terutamanya golongan graduan universiti. Objektif utama kajian ini ini dijalankan adalah untuk menganalisis hubungan antara kecenderungan mengambil risiko, sokongan keluarga, sifat kemahiran sendiri dan pendidikan keusahawanan dengan niat keusahawanan antara graduan perniagaan di Universiti Utara Malaysia. Data dikumpul dengan menggunakan borang kaji selidik yang telah diedarkan kepada 260 responden, namun begitu, hanya 200 borang kaji selidik yang berjaya dikutip semula bagi tujuan analisis. Penemuan kajian telah menunjukkan hanya dua (2) daripada empat pemboleh ubah mempunyai hubungan dengan niat keusahawanan iaitu sifat kemahiran sendiri dan pendidikan keusahawanan. Cadangan bagi pihak berkepentingan dan terhadap penyelidikan pada masa hadapan turut dibincangkan.

Kata Kunci: Niat Keusahawanan, Kecenderungan Mengambil Risiko, Sokongan Keluarga, Kemahiran Kendiri, Pendidikan Keusahawan, Graduan

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia
SBM	School of Business Management
ESE	Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy
SME	Small Medium Enterprise
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Science
RTP	Risk Taking Propensity
FS	Family Support
SE	Self-Efficacy
EE	Entrepreneurship Education
EI	Entrepreneurial Intention

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction to the Study

This study seek to analyze the relationship created between the factors of; risk taking propensity, family support, self-efficacy, and entrepreneurship education towards the creation of entrepreneurial intention among the business undergraduates of Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), Kedah. This chapter outlines the background of the study and details on how the research will be carried out. It also explores on the problem statement, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope of study, definition of key terms and also on the organization of the thesis.

1.1 Background of Study

Entrepreneurship is a key way to drive economic growth, innovation and competitiveness (Kuratko & Hodgetts, 2004; Buzeye, 2013) and the interest in entrepreneurship among those diploma, undergraduate or graduate student in higher learning institutions have shown a positive development over the last decades (Buzeye, 2013). Besides, further explanation by Buzeye (2013) also stated that the thoughts that it is an easy process for university student to obtain the job after their graduation is no longer convincing in today's world working environment.

Malaysia as one of the developing country in the world has seen the need of having tremendous number of young entrepreneur in order to stimulate the economy. A part of the effort is encouraging the youth to involve in entrepreneurship. According to Treasury secretary-general, Tan Sri Dr Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah, Economic Transformation

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