

**TOWARDS QUALITY EDUCATION:
A REVIEW OF THE ACADEMIC TARGET SET
FOR UiTMCSKS STUDENTS AND THE CONTRIBUTING
FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE IT**



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NOVEMBER 2003

Date: 29 November 2003

The Head
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Dear Professor

**FINAL RESEARCH REPORT ON 'TOWARDS QUALITY EDUCATION: A
REVIEW OF THE ACADEMIC TARGET SET FOR UiTMCSKS STUDENTS
AND THE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE IT**

With reference to the above, I am pleased to submit 3 (three) copies of the final research report entitled 'Towards Quality Education: A Review of the Academic Target Set for UiTMCSKS Students and the Contributing Factors that Influence it.

Thank you.

Yours truly



ASSOC PROF DR. HAJAH FATIMAH BUJANG
Leader
Research Project

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ABSTRACT

In 2000 UiTMCSKS was awarded the ISO 9002 status for its Diploma in Civil Engineering Programme. That year the administration decided to adopt a 70% target achievement for all its Programmes. Thus far this target has not been achieved. The purpose of this study was to review if this 70% target was achievable and if it was possible, to set a time frame by which the target could be achieved. The study also sought to identify the contributing factors that determined the attainment of this target. The methodology used was the Delphi technique, which employed the expertise of the heads of Programmes and Coordinators in UiTMCSKS. The results of the study supported the contention that the 70% target set for this campus was realistic and achievable. Then, using both historical data and predicted data, an ARIMA model was employed to forecast a probable time frame to achieve this target. The model predicted that the 70% target percentage could be achieved by the year 2007. The many predictors of academic achievement are also discussed. Practical suggestions for implementation of the findings are also given together with recommendations for further research.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Tertiary education is no longer confined to a privileged few but is deemed a necessity, especially for a fast-growing nation like ours. Today, a large section of our society has been touched by tertiary education. These groups have benefited from the skills acquired, gone on to successful careers and experienced personal fulfilment. It is not surprising, then, that as the masses become more educated and the quality of life improves, the realization that tertiary education is the ticket to a better life becomes a focus of attention and a matter of interest to almost everyone in every strata of society. As such, higher education in any society today, is of considerable public concern.

Of late there has been a tremendous increase in the speed at which knowledge is acquired. This explosion of knowledge, propelled by advancements in the field of technology, has created a huge demand for higher education. This has resulted in a mushrooming of institutes of higher learning. Today, for a population that stands at 25 million, the number of universities in Malaysia (both private and public) stands at 32. While this may be a matter of pride and achievement, one has to treat it with a little caution. As education is provided in quantity, its quality stands in jeopardy. Falling standards or mediocre performance of students' achievements can be a cause for alarm. A snowballing of this problem, if not checked, will have dire consequences not only on particular institutions' reputation or even that of a particular economic sector but a nation