

**THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARA INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY TOWARDS HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT IN SARAWAK**



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30 DECEMBER 2000

Date : 30 December 2000

Head
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Dear Associate Professor,

**FINAL RESEARCH REPORT "THE CONTRIBUIONS OF MARA
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TOWARDS HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT IN SARAWAK"**

With reference to the above, enclosed are three copies of the Final Research Report entitled, "The Contribution of MARA Institute of Technology towards Human Resource Development in Sarawak" by a group of researchers in UiTM Sarawak Campus.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yap Yin', written in a cursive style.

YAP YIN
Leader
Research Project

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ABSTRACT

According to the Seventh Malaysian Plan, ITM accounts for nearly 17% of the projected output of professional technical manpower during the 1996-2000 period. The main constraints faced by Bumiputeras from Sarawak in furthering their education in Peninsular Malaysia arise from the distance between Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak, and the heavy financial burden. In addition, due to their rural background, these students could not compete the students from Peninsular Malaysia in gaining entrance to public institutions of higher learning. As such, ITM Sarawak is important for the Bumiputeras from Sarawak to further their education and also help in meeting the State's manpower needs for its development.

In this study, a questionnaire survey was conducted and received responses from 693 graduates and 112 employers. The study managed to establish among other things the employment profile of the graduates, the qualifications that they held, and their income distribution. Besides that, the study also obtained feedback from the graduates and their employers on many aspects of the training provided in ITM as well as the future direction in which ITM Sarawak should take.

The graduates had mostly found employment in the Government Sector. The qualification and the training they received from ITM had helped them attain a socio-economic status higher than their parents. For many of these graduates, ITM was the only offer they received from any institution of higher learning. The findings also showed that the number of graduates in the workforce had increase over the years and the growth was found to be significantly higher among females.

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Problem

In 1998, MARA Institute of Technology (ITM) was ranked second to Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in the production of technical manpower among the public institutions of higher learning in the country. According to the Seventh Malaysian Plan, ITM accounts for nearly 17% of the projected output of professional technical manpower during the 1996-2000 period. ITM was established in 1956 as *Institut Teknologi MARA* (ITM) and was renamed *Universiti Teknologi MARA* (UiTM) in August 1999. Currently, it consists of the main campus at Shah Alam and twelve branch campuses throughout Malaysia. The branch campus in Sarawak is located at Kota Samarahan which is near the capital city of Kuching. UiTM Sarawak Campus was formerly known as *Institut Teknologi MARA Cawangan Sarawak* (ITMCS) and was started in 1972 using the facilities at Batu Lintang Teachers' Training College in Kuching. It was renamed *Universiti Teknologi MARA Kampus Samarahan* (UiTMKS) in the year 2000. As the study was carried out before the change of status of ITM to a university, the institute will be referred to as ITM and the Sarawak Campus as ITM Sarawak throughout the context of the report.

ITM Sarawak is an important avenue for the Bumiputeras from Sarawak to further their education. Bumiputeras in Sarawak generally come from the lower income family. Their earning power is generally low and many households rely on