POST GRADUATE SUPERVISION: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM



RESEARCH MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (RMI) UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA 40450 SHAH ALAM, SELANGOR MALAYSIA

BY:

GURNAM KAUR SIDHU CHAN YUEN FOOK FARHANA WAN YUNUS

JANUARI 2012

Contents

Le	tter of Report Submission	iii
Le	tter of Offer (Research Grant)	iv
Ac	knowledgements	V
En	hanced Research Title and Objectives	Vi
Re	eport	1
5.1	Proposed Executive Summary	1
5.2	Enhanced Executive Summary	2
5.3	Introduction	3
5.4	Brief Literature Review	4
5.5	Methodology	8
5.6	Results and Discussion	11
5.7	Conclusion and Recommendation	15
5.8	References/Bibliography	18
Re	esearch Outcomes	19
Ар	pendix	20
	Le Ac Er 75.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5 5.6 5.7 5.8	Acknowledgements Enhanced Research Title and Objectives Report 5.1 Proposed Executive Summary 5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary 5.3 Introduction 5.4 Brief Literature Review 5.5 Methodology 5.6 Results and Discussion 5.7 Conclusion and Recommendation 5.8 References/Bibliography Research Outcomes

Tarikh : 15 Januari 2012 No. Fail Projek : 600-RMI/SSP/DANA 5/3/Dsp(65/2009)

Penolong Naib Canselor (Penyelidikan) Institut Pengurusan Penyelidikan (RMI) Universiti Teknologi MAŔA 40450 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan

Y.Bhg. Prof.,

LAPORAN AKHIR PENYELIDIKAN "POST GRADUATE SUPERVISION: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM"

Merujuk kepada di atas, bersama-sama ini disertakan Laporan Akhir Peyelidikan bertajuk, "Post Graduate Supervision: A Comparative Study between Malaysia and the United Kingdom".

Sekian, terima kasih

Yang benar,

Prof. Dr. Gurnam Kaur Sidhu Ketua Projek Penyelidikan

3. Acknowledgements

First and foremost, we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Research Management Institute (RMI) of Universiti Teknologi MARA for the opportunity and financial support that has made this study possible.

We would also like to thank the top management and all university personnel for giving us their full cooperation and granting us the permission to conduct the study in four universities in this study – i.e. two public universities in Malaysia and two universities in the UK. Our sincere and deep appreciation also goes to all the respondents – 99 post graduates and the 12 supervisors from Malaysia and the UK. All of them participated enthusiastically in the research and kindly accommodated us in the administration of all the instruments. Special mention also goes to the various ethic committees in the two UK universities for not only looking into the instruments and providing valuable feedback but also giving us new insights into ethics and procedures in conducting research in the UK. This study would not have been possible without their participation and full commitment.

Last but not least, our heartfelt thanks also go to all our counterparts in Malaysia especially the Dean of the Faculty of Education, UiTM and our colleagues who provided us with extensive comments on the manuscript. Special gratitude also goes to our research assistants (Cik Norazah Abdul Aziz & Cik Norzarifah Mohd Zahidi) who were instrumental in collecting and analysing data for this research. Finally, we would to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to all members of our families who gave us support and encouragement during the study.

5. Report

(301 words)

5.1 Proposed Executive Summary

The advent of globalisation and internationalisation has brought about the democratisation of education leading to greater equity and access to higher education. Overnight post graduate supervisors have witnessed an increase in post graduate supervision and there is no denying that the changing profile of today's mature, experienced and working post graduates have put more critical demands on both the supervisees and the supervisor. Therefore, this study aims to investigate supervisees' perspectives and expectations of post graduate supervision in Malaysia and the United Kingdom. The study will involve respondents from Schools of Education in two Malaysian public universities (i.e. UiTM & USM) and two universities in the United Kingdom. The study would involve only candidates at the doctoral levels and lecturers involved in supervising post graduates from the four identified universities in Malaysia and the United Kingdom. The descriptive-correlative study will involve a mixed method research approach employing the use of two research instruments, i.e. semi-structured interviews and questionnaires. The data of the survey questionnaire will be analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively. Qualitative data from the open-ended questions will be analyzed according to the themes emerged from the analysis. Quantitative data will be analyzed by using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) in which descriptive parameters, including frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations will be used to organize and summarize the data. Inferential statistics such as t-test, ANOVA, correlation and regression will also be employed. T-test and ANOVA will be used to identify the differences of supervisory practices between and among different groups according to demographic factors such as gender, programme and years of service. Correlation analysis will be used to identify the association between factors and supervisory practices. However, multivariate regression analysis will be employed to identify the most important factors contributing to the best practices of supervision in higher education.