

THE ACADEMIC STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AT PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN KUALA TERENGGANU

By

CHE WAN KHALIDAWATY WAN KHALID

JULIANA MOHD NOR

MASLIZA MAT ZALI

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TABLE OF CONTENT

CONTENT		PAGE
LETTER OF APPROVAL (GRANT)		i
LETTER OF COMPLETION (RESEARCH)		iii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT		iv
TABLE OF CONTENT		v
LIST OF TABLES		vii
LIST OF ACRONYMS		viii
ABSTRACT		ix
CHAPTER 1		
INTRODUCTION		
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Statement of the Problem	2
1.3	Research Objectives	3
1.4	Research Questions	4
1.5	Hypotheses	4
1.6	Significance of the Study	5
1.7	Scope of the Study	6
CHAPTER 2		
LITERATURE REVIEW		
2.1	Effectiveness of Professional Development Activities	7
2.2	Factors Influencing Professional Development Activities	7
2.3	Benefits of Professional Development Activities	9
2.4	Progress of Professional Development	9
2.5	Attitude Towards Professional Development	10
CHAPTER 3		

DATA AND METHODOLOGY

3.1	Participants	12
3.2	Instrument	12
3.3	Data Analysis	12

CHAPTER 4

EMPIRICAL RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1	What are the factors that affect the perceived progress of professional development among university lecturers?	14
4.2	What are the relationship between the perceived attitudes, reasons, benefits and effectiveness of professional development and perceived progress among academic staff?	20
4.3	Are there any differences in perceived progress among lecturers by university, by experiences, by employment status and by seniority at the university?	23

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1	Conclusion	27
5.2	Recommendation	28

REFERENCES	30
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APPENDIX	32
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LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
4.1.1	KMO and Bartlett's Test	14
4.1.2	Total Variance Explained of Professional Development Factors	16
4.1.3	Pattern Matrix of Professional Development FactorsModel	18
4.2.1	Summary Result	21
4.2.2	ANOVA Result	21
4.2.3	Coefficients Result	21
4.3.1	T-Test result	23
4.3.2	Group Statistics Result	23
4.3.3	Progress of Professional Development by Number of Teaching Experiences	25
4.3.4	Oneway ANOVA Result by gender	25

ABSTRACT

Many factors influence an academician's professional development (PD) progress. These factors could be the academicians' gender, teaching experiences, perceived professional and personal reasons for involvement in PD activities, perceived attitudes, perceived benefits and perceived effectiveness of the PD activities that they attended. This preliminary study investigated which of these factors are believed to be the contributing factors that influence academician professional development progress. Questionnaires were distributed to 208 academicians from 3 different universities in Kuala Terengganu. The results of the study indicated that gender and teaching experiences are not the factors that influence the respondents' PD progress. Factor and regression analysis findings indicated that benefits and attitudes are the only significant factors as compared to perceived effectiveness and perceived reasons for PD involvement. It is concluded that factors that influence PD should be further investigated because these are important elements that contribute towards the success of the progress of Malaysian universities' academic staff. Further research with more respondents will contribute precise information about Malaysian university academics' professional development.

Keywords: Attitudes, Benefits, Effectiveness, Academician, Professional Development.