## **UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

# KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER STRATEGIES AMONG COACHES IN SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS IN SELANGOR

#### SITI AISHAH BINTI WAHAB

Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **Doctor of Philosophy** (Information Management)

**Faculty of Information Management** 

May 2021

### **AUTHOR'S DECLARATION**

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

Name of Student	:	Siti Aishah binti Wahab
Student I.D. No.	:	2011644458
Programme	:	Doctor of Philospohy (Information Management) – IM990
Faculty	:	Information Management
Thesis Title	:	Knowledge Transfer Strategies among Coaches in Sports Organizations in Selangor
Signature of Student	:	
Date	:	May 2021

#### ABSTRACT

Knowledge transfer is to ensure sustainable knowledge in organizations; otherwise, knowledge loss will occur. This study is conducted to examine the process of knowledge transfer in sports organizations in Malaysia. It uses a process-oriented methodology (namely grounded theory), the use of which is either non-existent in knowledge transfer research in sports organizations or the practice of 'selecting and mixing' a wide range of research. The sample consisted of eight coaches working in Selangor's sports organizations. They were interviewed individually for the study. The data collected were later collated, transcribed, and interpreted based on the grounded theory approach. Emerging concepts were identified, arranged, linked, and presented in a meaningful and understandable way. Also, during the coding process, the constant comparative technique was used to assist emerging theory development. As a result, an inductive theory describing knowledge transfer in sports organizations was developed. The study results were used to develop a structured model to understand the process of knowledge transfer in sport organizations, and four categories of engaging, socializing, benchmarking, and learning emerged during the data analysis process. In the selective coding process, data revealed that the benchmarking category became the condition for searching for relevant knowledge while engaging and socializing were the strategies for searching for relevant knowledge. Learning became its consequences as it depended on the ability to understand during the engaging and socializing process. After examining all categories, learning seems to fit the criteria for the central category in this present study. This study of knowledge transfer was novel as it had never been studied in sports organizations in Malaysia, and its contribution to academic research in theoretical and methodological was achieved via the grounded theory approach. Future studies would be interesting if the concepts and categories related to knowledge management strategies found in this study could be investigated using a deductive research approach that may involve other geographic regions and various fields. This will enable further discussion of comparative knowledge transfer studies.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Without the help and assistance of many people around me, this doctoral thesis could not have been completed. Therefore, I cannot go without remembering those individuals who always made it possible for me to end this study.

Firstly, I wish to thank Allah for allowing me to embark on my PhD and complete this long and challenging journey. My gratitude and thanks go to my supervisor Prof. Dr. Haji Sohaimi Zakaria, and my second supervisor Dr. Azree Ahmad. Both are constructive and willing to listen to all problems and have been great mentors in giving views from different angles. I appreciate their support and guidance throughout.

My appreciation goes to the top management, sports officers from the Selangor State Sports Council and State Sports Associations, who assisted in data collection procedures. Without the respondents' time and experiences, then no data can be obtained for this study. I would like to thank you for those who agreed to participate in this study.

I would also like to thank my colleagues Dr. Kwame Ampofo-Boateng, Mrs. Asmalini Che Abu Shafie, Dr. Hasnul Faizal Hushin Amri, Dr. Azlina Zid, Miss Maizan Mohd Nor, Miss Sharifah Suriyani Syed Radzwan, Mrs. Nurul Ain Muhammad Rafiai, and Faculty of Sports Science members, for always being 'there' for me throughout this journey.

Finally, this thesis is devoted to the loving memory of my dear late father, Wahab Ahmad, and my late mother, Zainah Hamdan, for the vision and determination to educate me. I also thank my beloved husband, Syahril Azhar Mohd Sharif, my son Muhammad Darwisy and my daughter Dhia Batrisya for their continuous supports. Not to forget my aunty Madiah Hamdan, my beloved sister Siti Hawa and brother Mohd Zulkeflee and Mohd Sahfie, parents-in-law Mohd Sharif Saud and Che Sarah Salleh, my sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law who are always supporting me. This piece of victory is dedicated to all of you. Alhamdulillah.

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

CON	ii iii iv v vi xi xii xii							
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION ABSTRACT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TABLE OF CONTENTS LIST OF TABLES LIST OF FIGURES LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS								
			СНА	APTER	ONE INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY	1		
			1.1	Overv	1			
			1.2	Backg	Background Of Research			
				1.2.1	Knowledge Transfer in Sports Organizations	4		
				1.2.2	Background of Sports Organizations in Malaysia	5		
				1.2.3	The Core Business Of Sports Organizations	6		
1.3	Proble	Problem Statement						
1.4	The P	urpose Of The Study	12					
	1.4.1	Research Aims	12					
	1.4.2	Research Objectives	12					
	1.4.3	Research Questions	13					
1.5	Signif	Significance Of The Study						
1.6	Limita	15						
1.7	Scope of the Research							
1.8	Operational Definitions							
1.9	The O	The Organization Of The Thesis 1						