

**STUDY ON GRADUATES OF DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATION (DPA) OF UiTM, SAMARAHAN CAMPUS  
FROM 1998 TO 2000**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Our study is about trace study on graduates of Diploma in Public Administration (DPA) UiTM Samarahan campus from 1998-2000. For the study, we have use the questionnaire method and it has been distributed to a sample of 120 respondents who are DPA's graduates of UiTM Samarahan campus. The sample is randomly selected from the Sarawak area only. We try to identify what are the weaknesses and the strengths of the DPA program besides analyzing the achievement of the DPA's graduates after the completion of their diploma. From our study, we found that most of the respondents continued their study to higher qualification that is to the degree level. Most of them claim that the DPA program is a good program and it should maintain the performance by producing more DPA graduates. We hope from our research and the outcomes of the research can help the faculty in improving the standard of DPA program.

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) is a well-known local university in Malaysia. The university has branches almost in all parts of Malaysia. UiTM Samarahan Campus (UiTMSC), located in Kota Samarahan, is one of its branches.

Since 1997 until 2000, UiTMSC has 14 programs to offer to the students. One of the programs is Diploma in Public Administration (DPA), which has more than 300 students enroll every semester. On May 2000, the total number of students enroll for the program is 404 (13.57%) out of 2977 students enroll for programs in UiTMSC<sup>1</sup>

The curriculums for DPA program include the study of management, politics, government, current issues and laws, which are the compulsory subjects. Besides that, DPA students also taught about Mathematics, Statistics, accounting, economics and also computer literacy as the additional subjects. English language also includes in the curriculum. Besides, the language is used in every learning session.

Until now, the faculty has produced a lot of graduates of diploma in DPA. Some of the graduates may have further their studies to a higher levels education and some may go for a work.

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<sup>1</sup> Gaddam Jagmohan Das, Goy Siew Ching, Derick Singh, Sailaja Rajanetram, Khong Heng Yen, Susanna William Jalil (2001), *A Study on Classroom Management at UiTM Sarawak Branch Samarahan Campus*, page 2



## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Introduction

Robert Orben said, "A graduation ceremony is an event where the commencement speaker tells thousands of students dressed in identical caps and gowns that 'individuality' is the key to success."<sup>2</sup> For some students, graduation means the end of what they have strive for.

For Orrin Hatch, he has different view; "There is a good reason they call these ceremonies 'commencement exercises'. Graduation is not the end; it is the beginning."<sup>3</sup> It is true that graduation is not the end because it is the beginning for the graduates to enter a new and different world in their life. Even they are graduated, their degree of education can only secure their good future but cannot guarantee it. There are a lot of problems they may faced in order to succeed in their new life.

#### 2.2 Problems faced by graduates

Due to the rapid development in the country, the level of qualification for a job and to further study is getting higher. This situation causing a lot of graduates becomes unemployed.

In an article written in a newspaper said:

"Amat memeranjatkan apabila kita membaca laporan sebanyak 39,000 graduan yang dihasilkan tahun lepas masih menganggur."<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Robert Orben, *Quotes for Commencement & Advice For Graduates*, <http://www.quotegraden.com/graduation.html>

<sup>3</sup> Orrin Hatch, *ibid*.

<sup>4</sup> *Membela Nasib Graduan*, 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2000, Utusan Malaysia.