

**THE IMPACTS OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING PROGRAM TOWARDS  
ENHANCING THE PERFORMANCE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

**NURFAH NABILAH BT MOHD FADZIL**

**UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA**

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NURFAH NABILAH BT MOHD FADZIL

This report is submitted as partial requirement for the fulfillment of the Degree of the  
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I declare that had read read this work and in my opinion which the project was adequate from the scope and quality for the award of the Degree of the Bachelor in Technopreneurship with Honours.

Signature :.....

Supervisor's Name :.....

Date :.....

## **APPROVAL**

“I declare this thesis entitled ‘The Impacts of Industrial Training Program Towards Enhancing the Performance of The Undergraduate Students’ is my own work except the summary and excerpts of each of which I have mentioned the source”

Signature : .....

Name : NURFAH NABILAH BT MOHD FADZIL

Date : 17 JUNE 2013

## **DEDICATION**

Dedicated to my lovely family, especially to my father and mother for being supportive, encouraging and caring all the time. Thank you for listening, loving, helping, and always being there whenever I need you and for the strength that I feel because both of you have loved me so wonderfully well.

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Especially, I owe my loving thanks to my family members whose encourage and support me to complete this research. Without their encouragement and understanding, it would have been impossible for me to finish this research. My sincere thanks are to my friends and colleagues for their detailed review, constructive criticism and excellent advice during the preparation of this research.

## ABSTRACT

In today's competitive world, it has become much important for the student to develop their key competencies and practical skills, encouraging them to apply skills and knowledge acquired through study in a real-life environment. That is why industrial training have been an important strategy to expose students to real work-life situation and to equip them with the necessary skills so that they would be job ready when they graduate. Besides that, industrial training also provide a valuable contribution to organizations and many organizations are beginning to recognize the value of internship programs. Hence, the main idea of this research is to identify the impacts of the industrial training program towards enhancing the performance of the undergraduate students. In this research, the first batch of the undergraduates of Faculty of Technology Management and Technopreneurship, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM), was selected as the respondents as they have been undergone their industrial training during in their third year (semester 6). The result showed that the impacts of industrial training program significantly contributed towards enhancing the performance of the undergraduate students. As a conclusion, industrial training program provide benefits that enhance the performance of the undergraduate students. It was determined that internships plays a strong role in preparing the undergraduate students towards the workforce. Conclusion and recommendations of the study were also discussed based on the analysis.

**Keywords:** Industrial training program, Internship program, Benefits, Impacts, Performance.

## **ABSTRAK**

*Dalam dunia yang kompetitif pada hari ini, ia telah menjadi sangat penting bagi pelajar untuk meningkatkan kecekapan mereka dan kemahiran praktikal, menggalakkan mereka untuk memiliki kemahiran dan pengetahuan yang diperolehi melalui kajian dalam persekitaran yang sebenar. Oleh itu, latihan industri merupakan satu strategi penting untuk mendedahkan pelajar kepada situasi kerja-kehidupan sebenar dan untuk melengkapkan mereka dengan kemahiran yang diperlukan supaya mereka akan menjadi lebih bersedia ke alam pekerjaan apabila mereka bergraduasi nanti. Selain itu, latihan industri juga memberi sumbangan yang berharga kepada organisasi dan banyak organisasi mula menyedari nilai program latihan. Oleh itu, idea utama kajian ini adalah untuk mengenal pasti kesan-kesan program latihan industri ke arah meningkatkan prestasi pelajar-pelajar ijazah pertama. Dalam kajian ini, kumpulan pertama pelajar Fakulti Pengurusan Teknologi dan Teknousahawanan, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM), telah dipilih sebagai responden kerana mereka telah menjalani latihan industri semasa dalam tahun ketiga (semester 6). Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa program latihan industri telah memberi kesan yang menyumbang ke arah meningkatkan prestasi pelajar-pelajar ijazah pertama. Kesimpulannya, program latihan industri memberi manfaat yang meningkatkan prestasi pelajar-pelajar ijazah pertama. Kajian ini telah menunjukkan bahawa latihan industri memainkan peranan yang kuat dalam menyediakan pelajar ijazah pertama ke arah alam kerja. Kesimpulan dan cadangan kajian juga dibincangkan berdasarkan analisis yang diperolehi.*

*Kata kunci: Program Latihan Industri, Faedah, Kesan, Prestasi.*



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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

FPTT	Faculty of Technology Management and Technopreneurship
UTeM	University Technical Malaysia Melaka
BTEC	Bachelor of Technopreneurship with Honours
BTMM	Bachelor of Technology Management (High Technology Marketing) with Honours
BTMI	Bachelor of Technology Management (Innovation Technology) with Honours
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science

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## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of The Study**

Rapid growth of infrastructure development in Malaysia recently has increased the chances of job market to many graduated students. In order to keep up with the demands, higher institutions hold responsibility to produce students with the sufficient background and excellent qualification. As an assurance for the performance of the student is up to the standards, preparation and exposure to the industrial training is a must in the programme.

Industrial training program which is also known as internship program constitutes an essential part of the higher institution qualification for the undergraduates to obtain their degree. It is the window to the industries and provides students with their first opportunity to real-life work situation. Through industrial training, students could develop their awareness on workplace behavior and build up their interpersonal skills.

Industrial training is also the training ground for students to learn the secret traits of their future occupations. When presented with the problem solving tasks, students will summon their nexus of information and experiences in trying to overcome the work-based problems. This is what learning is all about. The process

will enrich their understanding of the matter to a better level. This kind of exposure cannot be taught in the classroom. Yet, it is the kind that employers are looking when hiring new workers. Students can utilize internships to gain valuable real-world experiences that will strengthen their positions, allowing them to gain an edge during the job search (Neuman, 1999).

Academic programs in cutting-edge technology areas, first of all, want to achieve the proper blending of classroom learning, laboratory work, and real-world experience. These programs, likewise, recognize the need to establish close contacts with employers as a way of monitoring the world of work for which they are preparing their graduates (Blunkett, 1999). Often, these relationships result in the accumulation of useful data to which the program can turn as it continually evaluates and modifies its curriculum.

As the industrial training program was proved in preparing the undergraduate students into the working life, most of the higher education institutions in this country nowadays ought to incorporate industrial training program into their curriculum in order to complement their classroom syllabuses. The internship program intended to augment existing curriculum to provide real world experience. This is because both education and training are important; they cannot be effective training without some educational input and vice versa. The productive individual, particularly in this millenium, must be able to combine and utilise the outcomes from the two forms of learning to enhance their performance and productivity.

The research was done by collecting data from the first batch of the undergraduate students of Faculty of Technology Management and Technopreneurship, UTeM. The faculty consists of three courses which are Bachelor of Technopreneurship with Honours (BTEC), Bachelor of Technology Management (High Technology Marketing) with Honours (BTMM) and Bachelor of Technology Management (Innovation Technology) with Honours (BTMI). As the first batch students of FPTT just undergone their industrial training last smester.

## 1.2 Problem Statement

Malaysian Higher Education Institutions adopt diverse approaches for industrial training programme. This is reflected in the way of which the programme is conducted, academically and administratively. On the other hand, the industrial training also being a compulsory component which contributing towards CGPA computation (Mohd Shariff et. al. 2000). Generally industrial training has been accepted as a strategic component of the technical degree programme.

The institutions of higher education are recommended to coordinates each others's efforts pertaining to industrial training and adopt the best practice, to develop databases and web-based services that facilitate smooth management of industrial training by the institutions. The institutions are also recommended to provide appropriate allocations to finance industrial training related activities and to signify the strategic importance of industrial training in relation to the institution's overall mission and finally to continuously solicit feedback and input from the industry to enhance the effectiveness of industrial training and the quality of both students and academic programmes which indirectly benefits the organization.

The research focussed on the impacts of the implementation of industrial training program towards the undergraduate student's performance; A case study on the undergraduate students of Faculty of Technology Management and Technopreneurship, UTeM. This study helped to identify the factors determine industrial training program that influence the performance of the undergraduate students. The study also aimed to understand the relationship between the impacts of the industrial training program and clarifies on how the industrial training program is beneficial to the undergraduate students.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

The research questions of the study are:

- 1.3.1 What is the extent of industrial training program that influence the performance of the undergraduate students?
- 1.3.2 What are the impacts of the industrial training program that benefits the undergraduate students?
- 1.3.3 What are the relationship between the impacts in the industrial training program that enhancing the performance of the undergraduate students?

### **1.4 Objective of the study**

The objectives of the study are to:

- 1.4.1 To identify the extent of industrial training program in enhancing the performance of the undergraduate students.
- 1.4.2 To identify the impacts of the industrial training program that benefits the undergraduate students.
- 1.4.3 To understand the relationship between the impacts of industrial training program that enhancing the performance of the undergraduate students.

### **1.5 Scope of Study**

The scope of study for this research focussed on the impacts of the industrial training program that influence the performance of the undergraduate students. It studied on the relationship between implementation of the industrial training program on how it benefits the undergraduate students.

## **1.6 Significance of Study**

Most of the Malaysian institutions of higher education make the industrial training program as a compulsory component and have been one of the requirements of the degree programmes. The undergraduates are compulsory to complete their industrial training for some period of time that stated by their institution prior to graduation. Besides giving the student of industrial training a positive inputs and work experience that enhance their employable skills and marketability in the future career, industrial training also provide a valuable contribution to organizations and many organizations are beginning to recognize the value of developing strong internship programs.

The significance of study was to identify the factors determine the industrial training program that influence the performance of the undergraduate students. This information were helpful in understanding the relationship between the elements in the industrial training program on how it benefits the undergraduate students. The findings also provide the undergraduate students with the information that will make them satisfied with the implementation of the industrial training program by most of the higher education institutions. In addition, the findings also provide the organization with the information that will make them recognize the effectiveness of industrial training program as it does not only benefits the student but also their organization itself as the host.

## **1.7 Summary**

This chapter starts with the background of study, problem statement, research questions, research objectives, scope of study amd significance of study.