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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COMPUTER ATTITUDE, ACADEMIC MAJOR AND PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER USAGE: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON LECTURERS IN UiTM PERLIS.

A thesis submitted to the Graduate School in partial
Fuifilment of the requirements for the degrees
Master of Science (Management),
Universiti Utara Malaysia

by

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ABSTRAK

Hubungan diantara sikap, bidang dan penggunaan komputer telah diiaji menggunakan model laluan theoretikal Tiga hipotesis mengenai korelasi telah diuji dalam kajian ini. Komuniti pensyarah di UiTM Perlis telah diambil sebagai subjek kajian. Kajian ini telah mendedahkan bahawa sikap terhadap komputer mempunyai korelasi yang positif dengan pengunaan computer untuk tujuan profesional. Bidang akademik iaitu bidang matematik and bukan matematik mempunyai korelasi secara langsung dengan tahap penggunaan komputer secara profesionai. Hasil kajian mendapati bahawa dua angkubah tersebut adalah signifikan walaupun ianya berkorelasi secara songsang. Begitu juga hubungan diantara bidang dan sikap terhadap komputera adalah signifikan walaupun mempunyai korelasi yang songsang.

ABSTRACT

The relationship between attitude, major and computer usage was studied using a theoretical path model. Three hypotheses on correlation were tested in this research. A community of lecturers in UiTM Perlis was taken as the subject under study. The study uncovered the fact that computer attitude is positively correlated with professional usage of computers. Academic major of maths and non-maths is directly correlated with level of professional usage of computers. The finding was that the two variables were significant even though the are inversely correlated. For the relationship between Major and Computer Attitude, the relationship was found to be on a similar note with the latter where, a significant but yet an inverse relationship.

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CHAPTER 1

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

MARA University of Technology Perlis is a branch college of UiTM, which is one of the Public Institution of Higher Learning in Malaysia. The campus has 222 lecturers; annually, they produce about 500 graduates in various disciplines.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Malaysian education is heading toward a more technologically oriented curriculum. It is the nation's mission and vision to lift Malaysia to a fully developed and industrialized country by the year 2020. Information technology is a very important factor toward realizing this vision and the vision calls for an extensive use of computers.

"By the year 20000 living without a computer, in a state of information poverty, will effectively exclude people from many day-to-day activities in society and will certainly exclude them from power" Zimmerman(1981)

More knowledgeable computer users who are capable of handling challenging computer tasks are in dire need at UiTM Perlis. Effective training programs are required to furnish these needs. To do this, a

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