

# STRENGTHENING HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL WORKFORCE

*Editors*

Munir Shuib  
Shukran Abdul Rahman  
Morshidi Sirat



**IIUM Press**



Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2009  
© IIUM Press, IIUM

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without any prior written permission from the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Strengthening higher education for a successful workforce / editors Munir Shuib, Shukran Abdul Rahman, Morshidi Sirat.

Includes index

ISBN 978-967-5272-06-6

1. Education, Higher--Malaysia. 2. Universities and colleges--Malaysia. I. Munir Shuib. II. Shukran Abdul Rahman. III. Morshidi Sirat, 1955-.  
378.595

Printed by:

Ampang Press Sdn. Bhd.  
6 Jalan 6/91, Taman Shamelin Perkasa  
Batu 3½, Jalan Cheras  
56100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Tel: 603-92849448 Fax: 603-92849105  
E-mail: ampress@streamyx.com

---

# GENDER ISSUES IN MALAYSIAN HIGHER LEARNING INSTITUTIONS: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE WORKFORCE

*Ruhaya Hussin and Mimi Iznita Mohamed Iqbal*

## Introduction

Education is an important aspect of life that should be emphasised by the government and private sectors as well as the non-governmental organisations. Successful students in primary and secondary schools may have the opportunity to further their studies in higher learning institutions. This opportunity is important because higher education serves as a basic foundation for producing future intellectuals, scholars and professionals who can nurture the quality of holistic excellence throughout every aspect of human life and fulfil the country's mission and vision.

At these education institutions, students are encouraged to seek and practise their knowledge and skills, to contribute their innovative ideas and to be able to accept and criticise the diversity of conflicting views. These institutions become platforms for moulding exemplary individuals as future leaders with the aim of leading and developing the country. While pursuing their studies, they are encouraged to be involved in extracurricular activities. These are useful in terms of providing and enhancing future skills in communication, leadership, information communication technology and team building, which will give them a competitive edge in the workforce.

Due to the need in providing the best human resources for Malaysia's future workforce, this chapter discusses the issue of the increasing number of female as compared to male students in higher learning institutions and the implications for the workforce.