1. *SKILLS SET DETERMINANTS OF IND-CADETS WORKFORCE IN HIGHTECH CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES IN LAGOS NIGERIA*

SKILLS SET DETERMINANTS OF IND-CADETS WORKFORCE IN HIGHTECH CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES IN LAGOS NIGERIA

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It is common practice in High Technology Construction Companies in Nigeria to seek out the best practice procedures for their organizational abilities and competencies. As a result, they hire fresh graduates on a yearly basis in order to fill the dynamic vacuum that technology opens from time to time. The Universities are the training fields for these young minds and on a regular basis update their curriculum towards competing in the ever changing global market of opportunities and competition. Work and employability are often mixed use concepts because training is different from being employable. This paper investigated the characteristics of the Ind-CADETS (Industry Cadets) workforce of students of construction related disciplines of Covenant University and some selected high technology construction companies in Lagos Nigeria. This was done to get feedback from these construction companies on the types of skill set they require from fresh graduates from the universities towards making the graduates better suited for their work experiences after graduation. This was done by administering a well-structured questionnaire and interviews for proper conclusion on the subject matter from a cross section of students from final year in Architecture, Building, and Estate Management of the 2016-2017 academic year and also from some selected high technology construction companies in Lagos. The data collected was statistically analysed with SPSS software and it showed that there was a gap in communication between the construction companies and the Universities on the types of skills set required for making the graduates fit effectively into the working environment. Software incompatibility and personality traits were seen as hindrances towards achieving this synergy. It was further discovered that University curriculum were missing the goal of achieving basic educational foundations for industry compatibility and employability.

Keywords: High-Tech, Construction, Curricullum, Employability, Ind-Cadets, Skills-set, Workforce

2. DESIGNING TO MEET INDIGENOUS NEEDS: PLACE OF TRADITIONAL STUDIES IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

DESIGNING TO MEET INDIGENOUS NEEDS: PLACE OF TRADITIONAL STUDIES

IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

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One of the roles of architectural design process is the ability to create spaces that meets the users' need. Global regions have their peculiarity in building designs which is influenced by regional conditions; socio-cultural, physical and climatic conditions of the place. This could be seen in countries in Asia, Middle - East countries, Africa, Europe and American. It is exhibited in their building designs, building materials, cost, forms and techniques. It is very imperative to recognize the local and regional forms, especially of domestic buildings, altering with the cultures, the environment and the climate of the area concerned.

In view of this, some courses that deals with traditional architecture and studies were incorporated into the curriculum of architecture schools, but it has been observed that the guiding principles of the curriculum formulation and implementation of these courses have not been properly merged with contemporary architecture courses to reach a meeting point to draw in the desire result of architecture forms that will create design and environments that respond to the needs of users. Using secondary data from literature and curricula of four schools of architecture in South-west and Northern Nigeria, this paper examines how adequately the curricula catered for the traditional content of architectural education and its uniqueness to specificity of the environment. It was discovered that aspects of traditional studies were rarely incorporated sufficiently into the curricula of the schools investigated. This paper recommended that curriculum review be done parametrically with special focus on pedagogic dynamics of required traditional architecture courses. It is desire that architectural training would always recognize the place of traditional architecture and teach based on its principles.

Keywords: traditional architecture, courses, user needs, curriculum, contemporary architecture.

3. STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF DESIGN STUDIO JURY IN SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE IN NIGERIA

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF DESIGN STUDIO JURY IN SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

An examination is a formal test of a person's knowledge or proficiency in a particular subject or skill. Often times, the approach of an examination is accompanied by examination fever on students, which suggests that the examination period is not always a pleasant one. Architectural jury for design studio works is the equivalent of examination for written courses; hence, students perceive it with mixed feelings. The jury, aside from being an examination also presents an opportunity for students to learn in an atmosphere that can either be jocular, antagonist or reassuring. Despite the age long tradition of the jury evaluation system, there are few literature that have assessed the perception of students towards its use and suitability as a means of performance measurement. The purpose of this study is to investigate students' perception of the jury system as a pedagogical means of evaluating design studio works. Data will be collected through a survey of three purposively selected schools using a structured questionnaire as instrument of data collection. The respondents are students across the 2nd to 4th and 5th to 6th year of undergraduate and postgraduate study respectively. Data obtained shall be analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings from the study will be useful in the development of national academic policies for Nigerian Schools of Architecture towards improving students' acceptance of the jury process as a tool for learning and assessment on one hand, and also to improve their performance in the jury on the other hand.

keywords: architectural jury, design studio, students' perception, nigeria.

4. GENDER AND CAREER ASPIRATIONS OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

GENDER AND CAREER ASPIRATIONS OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

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Over the years, people have begun to drift from their fields of study to other professions. For the field of Architecture, a male-dominated field, assessing the impact of gender on career aspiration of students has become important. For this reason a survey of architecture students was carried out to determine if their gender influenced their career aspiration. Questionnaires were administered to students from two selected schools of Architecture in South-West, Nigeria.

Interviews were also carried out. It was discovered that although most of the students wished to remain in the field of architecture regardless of their gender, most of them do not want to remain forever. Their choice of career aspirations although similar, were in different preferential orders. For the male students; programming, animation, entrepreneurship, furniture making, interior design, fashion, agriculture, writing and catering while for the females; fashion, interior design, entrepreneurship, writing, catering, agriculture, animation and programming
Keywords: architecture profession, architecture students, career aspiration, gender.

5.IMPACT OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROCESS ON STUDENTS PERFORMANCE IN DESIGN STUDIO PROJECTS

IMPACT OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROCESS ON STUDENTS

PERFORMANCE IN DESIGN STUDIO PROJECTS

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Architecture can be seen as a discipline that poses several design challenges from conception to design realization stages. This path by which the idea of an architect is translated from the mind to paper and then birthed to life is known as design process. To solve design problems, architects have to go through a systematic design process, which vary with individuals and groups. In whatever way this is done, the process determines the output and resulting performances. Hence, this study investigates varying design processes and the impact it has on students' performances in their design studio courses. This study adopted a survey approach with 300 structured questionnaires distributed in three Schools of Architecture in southwest Nigeria. The Results showed two distinct design process approach by students namely: (i) Students who derive design concept in mind and stick to it from the beginning of the project to the end; and (2). Students who embark on research with guided relevant key parameters to direct their project. Findings show that students in the latter category perform better in the design studio. Furthermore, the study recommended that the design process approach is important, but the rule of thumb is not a major determinant factor to performance in architectural design studio.
keywords: architecture, architecture students, design process, design studio, student performance.