5th Asia Pacific Conference on Advanced Research
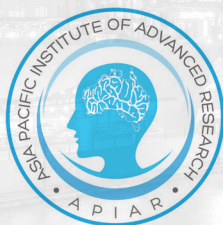
ABSTRACTS

VENUE:
Rydges on Swanston, Melbourne, Australia

28th and 29th
of April 2017

ASIA PACIFIC INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED RESEARCH

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Preface

We are pleased to welcome you to the 5th Asia Pacific Conference on Advanced Research (APCAR- 2017) in Melbourne, organised by the Asia Pacific Institute of Advanced Research (APIAR). The main theme of this conference is 'Strategies for Future' and the conference will cover Business, Social Sciences, Education and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) disciplines.

We are delighted that by participating in this event you will be able to interact with internationally-recognized scholars who will present their latest research and best practice. We are also pleased that this conference will give you the opportunity to:

- Strengthen your professional ties – an invaluable opportunity for post-PhD professionals.

- Receive feedback and constructive critique on your ideas.

- Refine your communication skills, moving to a collaborative exchange of perspectives.

- Participate in our conference and publish your research directly through conference proceedings and journals.

We wish you a happy stay in Melbourne and a stimulating time at our conference.

Professor John Polesel
University of Melbourne

Conference Chair

Professor John Polesel

The University of Melbourne

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We wish you a happy stay in Melbourne and a stimulating time at our conference

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Business

ABSTRACTS

EARNING QUALITY AFTER IFRS ADOPTION

(STUDY ON INDONESIAN GO PUBLIC COMPANIES THAT ARE LISTED ON IDX)

Amalia Rizki [a], Riska Nur Rosyidiana [b]
[ab] University of Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia
Corresponding email: amalia.rizki@feb.unair.ac.id

Abstract

This study's objective is to find out whether IFRS implementation has considerable implication by examined factors that affect earning quality such as beta, capital structure, earning persistence, growth opportunities and firm size in the fair value accounting environment in Indonesia, since Indonesia has implemented IFRS since 2012. This research attempts to be part of development and application groundwork in implementing knowledge and theory, continuing study about IFRS and its application in Indonesia. The sample will be used in manufacturing companies that are listed in Indonesian Capital Stock Exchange (IDX) in 2011. This study will be conducted by a cross sectional approach using 2011-2014 data. The data will be analysis by multiple regression analysis models. The result shows that all variables do not affect partially or simultaneously to the earning quality.

Keywords: IFRS, Indonesia, Manufacturing Companies, Indonesian Capital Stock Exchange.

Business

ADJUSTING COST OF CAPITAL FOR RISKY ASSETS NOT IN THE RATE BASE

Andre R de Oliveira [a], Paulo Coutinho [b], Alexandre Carvalho [c]
[a] Utah Valley University, Orem, USA
[b] Universidade de Brasilia, Brasilia, Brazil
[c] IPEA, Brasilia, Brazil
Corresponding email: aoliveira@uvu.edu

Business

Abstract

This paper identifies an underappreciated source of risk for capital invested in regulated markets and proposes a new methodology to calculate the associated premium. The risk stems from the impact on the revenues and costs of regulated companies of fully depreciated assets that are still in service, but are no longer included in their rate base. The future of many regulated sectors depends on their ability to attract private investment, which will not materialize if investors are not adequately compensated for bearing that type of risk. We develop three models, one based on financial analysis and two on economic analysis, to calculate the proper rate of return on a fully depreciated plant still in service. T he financial model builds upon the intuition that this problem is similar to that of determining the appropriate return on risky ventures that do not require capital expenditure. The economic model is based on the idea of opportunity cost. Shareholders of a regulated company have two options: They can either keep the fully depreciated plant in service or replace it with new plant. The regulatory revenue the company is allowed to earn should make shareholders indifferent between the options of replacing or not replacing the fully depreciated assets. The three models generate the same return on capital for investors.

Keywords: Fully Depreciated Assets, Opportunity Cost, Rate Base, Return on Capital, Risk.

ROLE OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE WORK SYSTEMS IN MANAGING NARCISSIST BEHAVIOUR

Promila Agarwal[a]
[a]Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, India
Email: promila@iima.ac.in

Abstract

The objective of the current study is to identify the underlying mechanisms that explain the relationship between narcissism and managerial derailment. Drawing from the trait activation theory, we explore a model of high-performance work systems as moderator in the relationship between narcissism and managerial derailment. Based on multiple- rater responses from peers, subordinates, and supervisors on 562 employees, the findings show support for moderating relationships. The study has important implications for managerial derailment, uncovering how people management practices can reduce managerial derailment in the workplace.

*Keywords***:** Narcissism, Managerial Derailment, High-performance Work Systems.

Business

THE PROSPECTS OF SHARIA HOTEL BUSINESS IN INDONESIA
(CASE STUDY IN SURABAYA CITY)

Dr. Sri Endah Nurhidayati, S.Sos, M.Si [a], Andy Umardiono
S.Sos, M.Si. [b], Novianto Edi S.S.T.Par, M.Si [c]
[abc] Faculty of Vocational Airlangga University, Surabaya, Indonesia
Corresponding email: sriendah.nurhidayati@fisip.unair.ac.id

Business

Abstract

Islamic tourism is an activity that provides the tourism facilities and services with the concepts and values of Islam. Islamic tourism terminology in Indonesia is known as Sharia Tourism, and is internationally known as Islamic tourism. One important part that must exist in Islamic tourism development is the availability of Sharia accommodation or Sharia hotel. Sharia Hotel is the hotel operations and services adapted to Islamic principles or guidelines of Islam.

This article describes the characteristics of sharia hotesl, and analyzes the business prospects of sharia hotel. The research location in Surabaya, which is one of the business center in Indonesia. The study used a qualitative approach. Data collected through interviews and observations.

The results showed that characteristics of sharia hotels include: (1) physical aspect: the interior and exterior of the hotel using the attributes of Islamic (calligraphy, building pillared resembles a mosque, buildings without human figures or animals and ornaments identic with symbols of Islam; (2) human resource: for female staff wear the veil (hijab), protective clothing and loose, use makeup simple, and do not use excessive jewelry and for the male staff wearing a courteous, long sleeves and muslim caps ; (3) service: greeting using the greeting Islamic, attitude of staff polite, gentle and smile sympathetically; (4) facilities: halal restaurants, filter pornography on the TV channel, there is no facility music room, night club, bar with alcohol, prostitution, gambling, and facilities which is forbidden in Islam, the pool is enclosed (indoor) and separate male and female, played Islamic music; (5) Policy: allow only guests and the

mukhrim to stay in one room, payment of Islamic bank (sharia bank); (6) Managerial: timely payment of employee salaries, in cooperation with Islamic banks.

The market of sharia hotel is conducting pilgrimage travelers, families and Muslim businessmen. The market reasons for using sharia hotel in general is closed access to place of pilgrimage destination and other Islamic destinations (mosque). While the market in the form of sharia family choose the hotel because it is quieter, safer for families and guaranteed halal food served.

Business

THE EFFECT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ORIENTATION ON THE INTERNATIONALIZATION AND PERFORMANCE OF MALAYSIAN SMES

Mohd Roslan Ismail [a], Zukarnain Zakaria [b]
[a] International University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
[b] Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Corresponding email: roslan@iumw.edu.my

Business

Abstract

The increasing globalization of markets and businesses is playing a major role on the pace at which Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) internationalize. Within this context, the relationship between entrepreneurial orientation and the internationalization of SMEs in developing countries is an important area of academic research. This paper examines the effect of entrepreneurship orientation of Malaysia SMEs performance and the mediating effect of internationalization. Data from 218 Malaysia SMEs were used with structural equation modelling (SEM). The structural model investigates the direct effects of entrepreneurship orientation and internationalization on firm performance and mediating effect of internationalization. Results indicate that, there are differences between research findings in developed countries such as in the United States and Europe, as compared to Malaysia environment, raising the question whether the western concept of internationalization is applicable to the developing country, such as Malaysia.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship Orientation (EO), Internationalization, Firm Performance, SMEs.

STUDENTS' CONFIDANT REGARDING ONLINE AND OFFLINE CAREER EXPLORATION METHODS FOR SUCCESSFUL CAREER EXPLORATION OUTCOMEAN EXPERIMENT STUDY BASED ON MANAGEMENT UNDERGRADUATES OF A STATE UNIVERSITY IN SRI LANKA

Manodara D.K [a], Kumar S [b]
[ab] University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
Corresponding email: kaumudeemanodara@gmail.com

Abstract

For management graduates, the prospect of career planning and decision making can be quite daunting. It is also of critical importance as they embark into the world of work in a seamless fashion. This process begins with career exploration while still engaged in their university education. Career exploration has been defined by as those activities in which individuals acquire information about the external environment and oneself to facilitate their decision-making process, job entry, and also for vocational adjustment processes(Berlyne, 1965; Blustein, 1989 & Stumpf et al., 1983). Career exploration methods can be classified as based on online and offline modes. The main objective of this research is to identify which of these methods, are viewed as effective from the perspective of those who use them. We study behavioral and cognitive aspects of career exploration. The study used a pre-post experimental design with three between-subject conditions. Two offline methods, consulting with peers/parents/professionals' network and reviewing newspapers were used to operationalise offline exploration and internet/email based methods was used to operationalise online exploration. Seventy-five final year management undergraduates from a national university in Sri Lanka were selected randomly from their cohort to participate in the study. As a pre-test measure, students' beliefs in finding career by their respective exploration method were assessed. As the treatment, participants' were then asked to either communicate with their peers/ professionals/parents, read the jobs column in newspapers, or search online career sites about potential career opportunities, for a one month

period in a control environment. After the treatment, the students' post-beliefs were measured at the post-test. Changes in beliefs reflected the effectiveness of each career exploration method. Comparisons were made on several indicators. The results generally suggested that the peer/parent/professional consultation method resulted in strengthening beliefs in obtaining successful career exploration outcome.

Business

IMPROVISING PALLETIZATION IN INDIA'S LARGEST OIL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Bhagchandani Hunny [a], Brahmkshatriya Dilan [b]
[ab] Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Ahmedabad and India
Corresponding email: Bhagchandanihunny1995@gmail.com

Abstract

In the last decade or so, the warehouse and logistics market have seen many drastic changes, which is a result of the evolution of new technology in this sector. The agility of the supply chain market has a great impact on the market dynamics. Flexibility of the work area and space is the highest need of the current time. Developing new ways and technologies and implementing them on the current system is highly preferred over investing on the assets for the same purpose. The present case study is carried out in India's largest edible oil manufacturing company solving the issues faced by its concerning the space avaibility and material management. Here, we have tried to develop a new method on Palletisation and apply the same to selected variants. In this, a mathematical model has been developed which helps in obtaining the accurate number of boxes of various dimensions on a given pallet. Other factors such as the strength of the box, box thickness, height factor of rake and the handling of the forklift driver etc have been considered in the present model. This model was successfully implemented in three warehouses and the authenticity of the model was also verified. It resulted in more stacked and packed a lot on the pallet that made it easy for the forklift driver to handle. It also had a huge impact on the space avaibility as the company got about 2 rakes empty each day and could push its production limits.

Keywords: Palletization, Forklift Movement, Warehouse, Material Management

Asia Pacific Institute of Advanced Research

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Education

ABSTRACTS

THE LOOSE UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY CONNECTION AND THE STUDENTS' MISCONCEPTION ABOUT THEIR EMPLOYABILITY

Thi Tuyet Tran
Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam
Email: Thi-tuyet.tran@iab.de

Abstract

Although training a high skilled labour force for the industry is considered one of the central missions of the higher education training in Vietnam, there is a popular claim in the literature about the disappointment among employers about the work-readiness of university graduates. One of the critical influencing factors is students' perception about their 'assets' for employment, as this will determine their actions and decide their employability. This study investigates and compares the perspectives of employers and students on the issues of students' employability assets. The research findings were drawn from a mix method research project. The analysis of the quantitative data revealed that while both employers and students shared a common perception on the important assets of employability in the Vietnamese workplace, their evaluation of these assets differed significantly. The students appeared more confident with the acquired knowledge and skills, however, the employers seemed to be critical about, and not satisfy with the employability assets students possessed at the point of recruitment after graduation. The lack of practical experience and the poor understanding about the real needs of the labour market among students was found in the qualitative interviews as the major reasons for that low level of satisfaction among employers. There is an urgent call for a better connection between universities and enterprises in order to bring about more up-to-date and practical lessons for students. University-industry collaboration activities need to be in place to stop students from wobbling around to find their ways to employment.

Keywords: Graduate Employability; Higher Education; Misconception; University-industry Collaboration; Vietnam.

Education

DEVELOPMENT OF A GARDEN-BASED CURRICULUM CONTENT MODEL FOR INDIGINOUS PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Siti Farhah A.Aziz [a], Saedah Siraj [b], Zaharah Hussin [c], Nurul 'Ain Norman [d], Nur Izzah Norman [e]
[abcde] University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Corresponding email: saedah@um.edu.my

Education

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to report the findings on the development of Content Model of a Garden Based Curriculum on Nutritious Fruits and Vegetables for Indigenous Primary Schools. Data collection was conducted using Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM) method to develop the model and implementing Nominal Group Technique (NGT) involving experts from various related disciplines, including indigenous research, indigenous nutritional research, curriculum design, agriculture and activist from Semai ethnic for adding and dropping the elements that are presented before voting was conducted. NGT was carried out as an efficient technique for generating ideas in groups and for clarifying the generated ideas prior to the voting procedure by featured experts in ISM. Findings indicate that the development of content model of a garden based curriculum on nutritious fruits and vegetables that comprises four (4) content elements. Apart from the development of content model, the development of curriculum objective model, teaching and learning methods model, evaluation and assessment model are enabled to be used as a guideline in developing modules and teaching and learning program to improve nutritious fruits and vegetables consumption for Semai Indigenous children.

Keywords: Content Model, Interpretive Structural Modeling (ISM), Nominal Group Technique NGT), Garden Based Curriculum on Nutritious Fruits and Vegetables & Semai Indigenous.

IS TEACHERS' ATTITUDE STILL A BARRIER TOWARDS TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTANCE AFTER YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION?

ROSELILA bt Mohd Nawawi [a], Prof. Saedah Siraj [b]
[ab] University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Corresponding email: roselila_nawi@yahoo.com

Abstract

Teachers' attitude towards technology acceptance and the inevitable rally of new technology into education has been a focus of previous researches for more than three decades. Teachers' attitudes to accept and utilize technology and the impact on pedagogic practice have been central to the researches that had often seen teachers' attitude as a barrier, not a force for change. The purpose of this study is to investigate the prolonged status of pessimism on teachers' attitude after years of technology evolution in education. Accordingly, this paper applied the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) method, which is a multi-criteria decision making technique to prioritize the factors affecting teachers' acceptance towards the implementation of virtual education in Malaysian public secondary schools. The findings revealed six prominent factors through a review of literature, which were then prioritized and ranked accordingly. Remarkably, through a survey of 26 panels of experts in handling Frog Virtual Learning Environment in Malaysia, teachers' attitude is ranked as the fifth among the other six prominent factors with the percentage of only 10% of the overall result. Management support was identified as the most significant contributing factor in ensuring the success of virtual education which takes up 38.3% of the total accumulation. These suggest that the teachers' attitude is no longer a pessimistic barrier of technology acceptance after years of implementation. Technology acceptance is aligned with the enforcement of the administrators. If the enforcement is efficacious, then all other factors can be dealt competently.

Keywords: Teaching, Technology & Analytic Hierarchy Process.

BIO-SOCIO IMPACTS OF ONLINE LEARNING ON STUDENTS- DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPLICATIONS

Dr. Shweta Singh[a]
[a] James Cook University, Australia
Email: shwetasingh1@hotmail.com

Education

Abstract

In this highly competitive era, education is the only beacon to edge oneself in the working environment. Online Education is constantly evolving and changing. The driver of online learning is Technology and this paper will discuss the impacts of technology loaded teaching methodologies on student's mental and social health.

'Learning by doing' methodology is a newly emerging concept for online learners. The purpose of the paper is to identify how the online learning theories are related to bio-socio effects on students with a special emphasis on working women students. Gamification of courses is an emerging buzz word in the Education Industry. How does this learning theory impact online Learners? Pros and cons of online Learning and its bio-socio impact will be discussed in this paper. Traditional education can be diversified and potentially utilized to heighten the dynamics of online Education. This paper will draw upon various techniques of online learning. In my presentation, I would like to give an overview of the best online practices and discuss the challenges faced by students. This paper is diligently compiled to present the significant ground –breaking impact of online learning methodologies on Distance students.

Keywords: Bio-Socio Impact of Online Learning, Learning by doing Methodology, Gamification & Traditional Education.

APPLICATION OF INTERPRETIVE STRUCTURAL MODELLING IN DEVELOPMENT OF COLLABORATIVE MOBILE INSTANT MESSAGING LEARNING MODEL

Khairah @ Asma'a Baharun [a], Saedah Siraj [b], Muhammad Faizal A. Ghani [c]
[abc] University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Corresponding email: khairah74@siswa.um.edu.my

Abstract

The potential of Mobile Instant Messaging (MIM) to support collaborative learning because of its powerful features as speed, effectiveness and no cost has gained interest in education. Thus, this study aimed to develop a Collaborative Mobile Instant Messaging Learning Model for teacher training. The model was developed using an Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM) technique with the aid of Concept Star Software based on the integrated views and opinions of panel of selected experts. The findings of the study constitute the result of the experts' collective views on the pedagogical activities and the relationships among the activities. Therefore, 27 pedagogical activities have been identified and determined to be incorporated in the model. From the model developed, the experts viewed that the pedagogical activities could be divided into five categories which are Initial Pedagogical Activities, Knowledge Construction Activities, Collaboration Development Activities, E-monitoring Activities and Reflection Activities. The pedagogical activities were also classified into four clusters which are Autonomous activities, Dependent activities, Linkage activities, and Independent activitiesto facilitate the interpretation of the roles of the activities in terms of the driving and dependence powers. Through this paper, we contribute to identify the suitable pedagogical activities for collaborative learning using mobile instant messaging and prioritize them. Thus, the structured model is expected to improve the delivery of teaching and learning methods that are more efficient through planning in shaping the framework of the course better.

Keywords: Collaborative Learning, Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM), Mobile Instant Messaging (MIM) & Pedagogical Activities.

DEVELOPING AN INTERGENERATIONAL CURRICULUM MODULE BASED ON SKILL SHARING

Ngu Kee Shing[a]
[a]University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Email: keeshing25@gmail.com

Education

Abstract

This study aimed at developing an intergenerational curriculum module based on skill sharing among the older generations and secondary school students. The module development was targeted at demonstrating how the module can be used in efforts to breach the gap between the generations and to give an opportunity to the older generation to make a meaningful contribution through the intergenerational program. This study used the Design and Development Research approach first introduced by Richey dan Klein (2007) that consists of three phases. The first phase involved needs analysis using the questionnaire administered on 618 senior citizens to identify their needs in building the intergenerational curriculum module. The second phase used the Fuzzy Delphi approach to develop a module based on the views and consensus of a 21-member panel of experts. The threshold value (*d*) was calculated to verify the consensus of experts toward all the questionnaire items. Three experts were selected to revise the prototype module. The third phase was the module usability evaluation using semi structured interviews with 10 students and seven senior citizens. Semi structured interviews were carried out on the sample to evaluate the usability of the intergenerational curriculum module. Findings from the first phase show that the majority of senior citizens had confidence and were willing to share their time and skills with the secondary school students. This shows that there exists a need for developing an intergenerational curriculum module based on skills for senior citizens and students. Findings from the second phase resulted in development of the module made up of the design, main module components, and 30 activities that need to be put into the intergenerational curriculum module. Three classifications

of intergenerational programs were suggested (*elders serve the youth*, *shared program* and *reciprocal mutuallearning*). The third phase findings show that the sample was satisfied with the intergenerational activities, duration and location afforded by the module. The third phase findings also show that the intergenerational curriculum module had four main strengths: the module gave opportunity and space for students and senior citizens to interact and communicate, share their skills, give opportunities for students to help the aged and generate mutual respect and make the aged feel needed. The intergenerational curriculum module based on skill sharing produced by this study can be used as a guideline for the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Senior Citizen Associations, and selected agencies when carrying out intergenerational programs in future.

Keywords: Intergenerational Curriculum Module, Secondary School Students & Design and Development Research.

AN EMERGENT LITERACY INTERVENTION AND FATHERS' INVOLVEMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTRES

Parisa S. Tadi [a], John Everatt [b], Brigid McNeill [c], Amir Sadeghi [d]
[abc] University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
[d] Islamic Azad University, Damavand Branch, Tehran, Iran
Corresponding email: parisa.soleimanitadi@pg.canterbury.ac.nz

Education

Abstract

Early year's education experts highlight the critical role of fathers in children's educational development, however, very few studies have focused on fathers to encourage their involvement in childcare centres. The purpose of the present study was to examine the effectiveness of an emergent literacy intervention programme that targeted fathers and facilitated their involvement in early year's education services. Participants were 12 fathers, along with their children, aged between three and five years old, who completed a three-week emergent literacy programme in their childcares' environment. Eight childcare centres were selected for the research, with participants and centres being randomly assigned to either a comparison (control) or an experimental group. Data collected focused on the frequency of participants' reading behaviours during shared reading sessions, as well as the frequency and nature of father-child interactions in the centres. Findings demonstrated a higher frequency of word, questioning and print knowledge reading behaviours among the experimental group than observed among the participants in the comparison group. Overall, the results supported the idea that father-focused programmes may create a favourable context for increased involvement of fathers in early childhood centres.

Keywords: Early Childhood Education, Emergent Literacy, Father Involvement & Shared Book Reading.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF ASSOCIATIVE LEARNING ABILITY TO WORD READING IN CHINESE KINDERGARTENERS

Bonnie Wing-Yin Chow
City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Email: wychow@cityu.edu.hk

Abstract

Equipping a child with a level of reading proficiency adequate enough to meet the demands of formal education is a long-running endeavour. The ability to form associations between print, sound and meaning is fundamental to word reading. An important skill that supports lexical mappings is known as the associative learning ability (e.g., Hulme et al., 2007). Research evidence has indicated that associative learning ability predicts children's word reading proficiency (e.g., Warmington & Hulme, 2012). However, the extent to which associative learning contributes to the learning of a script with ambiguous print-sound mappings, such as Chinese, remains unclear.

To fill in this research gap, the present study investigated the contribution of associative learning to word reading in Chinese beginning readers. Sixty-one Chinese kindergarteners were individually administered tasks of associative learning, phonological memory and Chinese word reading. This study resorted to pseudo words to control for learners' possible pre-experimental experience with the word stimuli. Results showed that associative learning significantly correlated with Chinese word reading, indicating that children with better associative learning ability have better Chinese word reading skills. Hierarchical regression analysis showed that associative learning significantly predicted Chinese word reading after the effect of phonological memory was controlled for. Findings of this study suggest that activities that enhance associative learning skills could be integrated into beginning language instructions to facilitate children's learning of Chinese words.

Keywords: Associative Learning, Word Reading & Chinese Children.

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Education

THE EFFECT OF AFFECTIVE FACTORS IN SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND ITS PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

Dr. Mrinalini Ghatage [a], Aditi Korgaonkar [b], Asst. Prof. Manisha Ghatage [c]
[abc] SNDT Women's University, India
Corresponding email: mrinalinieflu@gmail.com

Abstract

In India, second language learning, that is, English language is a very crucial issue. Though the language is introduced and used for trade by colonizer over a decade, it is a colonizer's language. It is adopted by Indians as their language. Though in India, this language has got the status of the second language, the percentage of language users is very less, approximately 16% of the Indian population. Then, the question arises even if there are lots of innovations, experiences done in this area, why the percentage of language users is less? This study is trying to find out the factors controlling, and influencing the language learning. It also tries to find out how the individual differences affect learning. Considering the large size of the class, it is difficult to observe every student and his/her learning process, and the individual differences of the students. Considering research in the area this paper tries to focus on how to minimize the controlling factors which can be implemented in language classroom. The data will be collected from under graduate students, who have English as a second language. This paper also tries to re-think about the implementation of the syllabus in the class.

Keywords: India, English language & Under Graduate Students.

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ICT

ABSTRACTS

IMPROVED WI-FI SIGNAL QUALITY INDICATOR USING WI-FI PERFORMANCE OBSERVATION

Ahmad Tajuddin Samsudin [a], Mohd Shahril Saharedan [b], Syaiful Nizam Yahya [c], Mohd Syafarees Ishak [d], Siti Salwa Said [e]
[abcde] Telekom Research & Development, Cyberjaya, Malaysia
Corresponding email: tajuddin@tmrnd.com.my

Abstract

Nowadays, the customer uses the device that requires wireless connectivity either outside or inside the house. The customer usually relies on the device indicator that refers to the received signal strength indicator (RSSI). On the device, the RSSI is designated as bars rating the Access Point (AP) signal strength for the customer. Most customers of Wi-Fi devices will check the AP signal quality indicator before they connect to the AP. However, the RSSI which can be confusing to the customer. This is because customers often associate the Wi-Fi performance with RSSI, with the perception that the higher of RSSI the better performance of data transmission. The perception somewhat true, however, sometime that perception can be denied by interference, such as electromagnetic signal, congested frequency by others AP, and congested traffic by other devices connecting to same AP. Therefore, this paper proposed a new indicator to provide a real guidance to the customer, which introduce signal quality indicator which combine actual RSSI and Wi- Fi performance, such as latency and loss to represent the actual performance of the AP. Based on the observed data latency, loss and RSSI, we perform a regression analysis for curve fitting. The result shows that the proposed signal quality indicator better than the actual RSSI rating bar to reflect the Internet experience.

Keywords: Signal Quality Indicator; Wi-Fi Performance; Regression Analysis; RSSI & Access Point.

ICT

AN FPGA-BASED VIRTUAL PAINTING BOARD

Ju Seok Lee[a], Jeong Beom Kim[b]
[ab] Kangwon National University, Chuncheon, Republic of Korea
Corresponding email: kimjb@kangwon.ac.kr

Abstract

In this paper, we describe the design and implementation of a virtual painting board in an FPGA board. The system has a CMOS camera as an input device and a VGA monitor as an output device. Users can draw lines, colour a picture or both and can follow it on the VGA screen. We have used VHDL and Verilog-HDL for the hardware design. The system hardware consists of CCD capture, RAW2RGB, SDRAM, Main Ctrl, M4K, and VGA controller. The system detects yellow and red colour with the camera and stores and converts the coordinate. Based on Altera DE2 board, we have used 1.3 M pixel CMOS camera, VGA monitor, and coloured bands for this system. The design is developed by Quartus II 11.1 software.

Keywords: Virtual Painting Board, Gesture Detection, Colour Segmentation, Fingers With Coloured Band, FPGA & Embedded System.

ICT

" Social Sciences

ABSTRACTS

LOBBYING ACTIVITIES OF FIRMS WITH VARIOUS INTERESTS

Yumiko Baba[a]
[a]Aoyamagakuin University, Tokyo Japan
Email: yumiko.baba@gmail.com

Abstract

We examine lobbying activities of two players theoretically and experimentally by using Tullock contests. Players' interests can be different. In one extreme, two players' interests are independent where the winner takes all. In the other extreme, players' interests are perfectly aligned where the winner and the loser enjoy the prize value equally. Choosing the host cities of the FIFA World Cup and of the Olympic Game are in the former example and two firms in the oil industry engaging in the lobbying activities against the tough environmental regulation are in the latter example. Our model incorporates all the other intermediate cases. Our model is also interpreted as a model of lobbying activities of two firms cross holding each other's shares. We show theoretically that the equilibrium amounts of investment of players are the same in the simultaneous and in the sequential contests. Based on our theoretical results, we ran experiments to examine whether players' investment decisions were influenced by how aligned their interests were. Players over-invested and variances were large both in the sequential and in the simultaneous games, but they played the Nash equilibrium 76.49% of the time in the simultaneous game and 75.30% in the sequential game when their interests were perfectly aligned. Furthermore, our experiment observed that investment decisions between the simultaneous and the sequential contests are similar, except the case where two players' interests were perfectly aligned.

Keywords: Tullock Contest, Lobbying & Experiments.

THE EFFECT OF RISK MANAGEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT ON INTEGRITY SYSTEM IN THE MALAYSIAN PUBLIC SECTOR

Razana Juhaida Johari [a], Jamaliah Said [b], Anis Halina Anuar [c]
[abc] UiTM Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia
Corresponding email: razana@salam.uitm.edu.my

Abstract

Integrity is considered a vital matter since it may cause governance failures, fraud, inefficiency, corruption and poor financial management, especially in the public sector agency. Currently, the public sector agency has become a global issue as a result of the continuous stream of governance failure, fraud, inefficiency and corruption. Due to that, the agency is under pressure to justify the sources and utilizations of public resources as well as improving the performance in their services since the publics have right to monitor the transparency and efficiency of the public sector's management. This study attempts to investigate the factors that could contribute to the integrity systems in Malaysian public sector. Both printed and online questionnaires were distributed to 210 Heads of Department under selected Malaysian federal ministry. Findings from this study showed a significant positive effect of risk management and accountability practices, as well as the management commitment. This study is expected to contribute to the policy makers by providing them awareness on the factors that could influence the integrity practices among the department in Malaysian public sector. Research limitation and recommendations for future studies are discussed.

Keywords: Pubic Sector, Integrity System, Risk Management, Accountability & Management Commitment.

Social Sciences

APPLICATION OF INTERPRETIVE STRUCTURAL MODELING ON VERBAL AND NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION MODEL BETWEEN LEARNING COMPANION HUMANOIDS AND ELDERLY HUMANS

Nor Ayu bt Meor Ahmad [a], Prof. Saedah Siraj [b]
[ab] University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Corresponding email: ayumeor@siswa.um.edu.my

Abstract

As the number of elderly people in Malaysia increases, they might feel lonely as caregivers struggle to give care and provide companionship to the elders. Loneliness can lead to mental diseases like depression and dementia and that can have a negative impact on the quality of life of both elderly people and their caregivers. Therefore, a solution to overcome this problem is by using humanoids as companions for the elders and to encourage them to gain knowledge at a later age. This study aimed to develop a model on verbal and non-verbal communication between learning companion humanoids and elderly humans.

The model was produced by using Interpretive Structural Modeling (ISM) with the aid of Concept Star software that utilizes expert opinions. This method resulted in a total of 32 elements for the model and shows the relationships between them. Each element was further classified into four clusters which are Autonomous elements, linkage elements, dependent elements and independent elements, in terms of their driving and dependence powers through MICMAC analysis. This paper contributes to the Education and Artificial Intelligence fields by identifying the elements for effective verbal and non-verbal communication between humanoids and elderly humans and prioritizing them. The model will act as a guideline for successful communication between lonely elders, healthy elders and humanoids.

Keywords*: Communication, Companionship, Elderly, Humanoids & Interpretive Structural Modeling.*

THE AFRICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS' SURVIVAL AND ADAPTATION IN CHINA: CASES OF JINHUA AND WUHAN

TANO Kouassi Joseph [a], SUN Qiu Yun [b]
[a] Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
[b] Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China
Corresponding email: tanok75@yahoo.fr

Abstract

The thesis aims to study African students' integration and the adaptation in Chinese universities by joining associative groupings. The thesis uses qualitative research and interviewing target focus groups. It is about a cross-sectional study of descriptive and analytical aiming based on the qualitative under tended by the dialectical approach. The characteristic of this method has made it possible to collect the qualitative data. Within the framework of this study, the information is collected through documentations, recordings of accounts and speeches of surveyed. They are transcribed and the gross profits were the subject of an analysis of contents of the speeches on the Africans students, of the accounts of life stories or experiments lived in the relationship. The results demonstrate that student associations provide students a social identity, a cultural organization, leadership and thus make them feel being accepted and socialized in China. Associative space makes it possible for students to acquire communicating and eloquent competence and emotive intelligence. Students who have participated in associative groups support, give them knowledge of organization and human stock management. In this dynamic community, we can also make a report that the composition of these students groupings are minorities sometimes, but those groupings do gather those who have common interests. As is known to all, there is no difference between the way they associate and forms, except structural and functional perspective.

Keywords: Association of African Students, Adaptation, Integration & Community Life.

Social Sciences

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIMES (TOCS)-CAUSES, EFFECTS AND CHALLENGES: THE PERSPECTIVE OF LATIN AMERICA

Nafiu Ahmed[a]
[a]Coventry University, UK
Email: ahmedn40@uni.coventry.ac.uk

Abstract

The criminal networks in Latin America are expanding and diversifying their activities. As a result, there is a convergence of threats that were traditionally different to modern-day threats that are explosive and with destabilizing-filled impacts. Criminal violence associated with TOC is the most severe problem facing the nations in Latin America. The increased cases of TOCs in the region have led to insecurity and violence across the region, hence challenges to residents, public security forces and travelers. The factors leading to TOC in the region have been grouped into suitable geostrategic position, poor governance, corruption, poverty, and also issues of inequality and social mobility. Corruption has greatly facilitated TOC as an organized crime representative bribe, such government officials as police officers and the judges. TOCs impair the social and economic systems in the region, undermining the capacity of the nations to govern, and also creating a non-friendly environment for the travelers due to high incidences of kidnapping. TOC in Latin America has extended beyond its traditional strongholds of Colombia and Mexico; hence there is the need for multinational agencies and governments to cooperate in combating the challenge. However, this paper discusses the causes, effects and challenges of transnational organised crimes (TOCs) from the perspective of Latin America. This paper also glimpses at the security system in Latin American countries and how TOCs affect the security system in this region.

Keywords: Transnational Organised Crime. Latin America & Security and Threat.

Social Sciences

DETERMINANTS OF THE EFFICIENT TRANSPORATAION CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN THAILAND AND YUNNAN ALONG NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC CORRIDOR OF GMS

Yuanchun Xia [a], Boonsub Panichakarn [b], Sahas Bunditkul [c]
[ab] Naresuan University, Phitsanulok, Thailand
[c] Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand
Corresponding email: 303492135@qq.com

Social Sciences

Abstract

This paper aims to, from the new approach of the efficient transportation connectivity (ETC), find solutions to blocks in the transportation between Thailand and Yunnan (PRC) along North-South Economic Corridor (NSEC) of GMS. After the introduction, a literature review with the key term connectivity is presented. The followed section 3 discusses methodologies from both quantitative approaches and qualitative perspectives, the former of which is designed for an assessment of logistics performance along NSEC and a cargo volume's predication in the year of 2016-2015, and the latter of which is to make the complementary. Results of the methodologies are presented afterwards. Then, findings are shown in section 4 to provide reasons for and solutions to the constraints in the logistics performance. The last section indicates how to define and understanding ETC, as well as the determinants of ETC along NSEC of GMS. Also, limitations are to be discussed therein, with the recommendation for further study in this topic.

Keywords: Efficient Transportation Connectivity (ETC), North South Economic Corridor (NSEC), Logistics Performance, Forecasting, Solutions & Determinants.

EXCLUDED SPACES IN FEMINIST FRONT IN INDIA – CURRENT SCENARIO!

Aditi Korgaonkar [a], Asst. Prof. Manisha Ghatage [b]
[a] University of Mumbai, India
[b] SNDT Women's University, India
Corresponding email: aditi711.k@gmail.com

Abstract

Urban spaces in India are filled with slogans and shouts for sexual freedom, bodies and choices. Many celebrities are endorsing the concept of feminism through various social media. Is this medium inclusive of all of India's gender issues and gender realities? Is economic, political, religious and caste system which encompasses the social structure of India, taken into consideration while studying feminist issues? The unfortunate answer is not in affirmation. The lower caste women strongly believe that the feminist ideas are of, by and for the upper caste individuals. These ideas largely ignores the lower strata of the women's society, who are oppressed twice compared to the upper castes, first by the caste system and secondly by the patriarchy. Therefore the lower caste women termed this activism as 'metropolitan feminism' and they believe that feminist movement which strongly speaks about sisterhood is yet to treat a lower caste woman as an equal sister. The research aims to study the field of feminism in the context of caste system in Indian society. The two main field neglected by the field of psychology in India are caste systems and feminist psychology. Hierarchy of castes has always been an inevitable part of the social structure in India. While throwing light on these issues, the research also tries to focus on how feminism in India is circled around the upper caste women and hardly considers lower caste women. The study is in the lines of global feminism and emergence of black feminism. The paper calls to research this exclusion in the light of field of psychology.

Keywords: Feminist, India & Caste.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING IN ACQUISITION OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE IN REGIONAL SCHOOLS

Asst. Prof. Manisha Ghatage [a], Aditi Korgaonkar [b]
[a] SNDT Women's University, India
[b] University of Mumbai, India
Corresponding email: Manisha.ghatage@gmail.com

Abstract

Although English is a global language in today's period, still it is a second language in many parts of the world. In many countries, primary language of teaching is a regional language. English is introduced only in the latter part of schooling. The learner's intelligence and beliefs about second language learning, learning strategies, personality, motivation (both intrinsic and extrinsic) and culture cumulatively contributes towards language acquisition of a new language. Although India was ruled by England over a century, the English language still remains a second language largely and widely over different parts of the country. Many students are still admitted to schools where medium of instruction is regional language and English language is introduced as a second language. The research intends to study the intersection of above mentioned factors like beliefs about second language learning, learning strategies, personality, motivation (both intrinsic and extrinsic) in acquisition of English as a second language. The research will use standardized scales and inventories to measure the interaction of all these factors contributing to language acquisition. The data will be collected from schools having regional language as a medium of instruction and where English is introduced to students in the secondary section (higher school). The study will also attempt to find out if there are other factors contributing to second language acquisition and also the role of cognition and memory.

Keywords: English Language, Second Language, School & Cognition.

Social Sciences

THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN'S BEAUTY AND SEXUALITY IN SINHALESE THEATRE

Dr. Sunethra Kankanamge[a]
[a]University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka
Email: rashmimandeer@gmail.com

Abstract

Women have been a subject of discussion, viewed from a number of perspectives as beauty, love and sexuality from ancient times to the present as can be traced in a vast volume of literature in the world. According to the theories of Sanskrit literature as reflected in the works of poets and dramatists like Kalidasa, Sri Harshadeva and Bhasa 'Woman' is something very compulsory for them as a subject for ornation. Such ornation should focus on the woman from hair to feet with an ornated language'.

According to the cross-cultural communication between India and Sri Lanka, many Sinhalese theatre directors have taken 'woman and the sexuality' as a tool for the performances from the beginning to the present time. They have focused on how the woman's beauty and gracefulness are important for the play. These attributes of women are integral to the development of the performance text on the stage. Sometimes, they constitute the most important icon for the production. Many of the theatre productions have such a view in their representation of women's body. For example, in Ediriweera Sarachchandra's play 'Maname', the whole plot centers around the desire of the young princess Maname to be in the comfort of security and the personality of a man. The Director has chosen a girl for princess Maname who is very young and beautiful, with a typical woman's body as described by many poets in literature. She was an incarnation of beauty and sexuality as in the descriptions of many dramatists and poets. According to my view this is a tool which connects women's beauty and the sexuality with society. A similar representation of the woman's beauty and sexuality can be found in plays such Sinhalese

theatre directors as, Dharmasiri Bandaranayaka (Makarakshyana / The Dragon, 2011), Jayalath Manoratna (Horu Samaga Heluwen (Nude with thieves) 2008 and Dayananda Gunawardane (Gajaman Puwatha / The Lady, Gajaman).

The source for primary data was the actual performances of particular plays. The secondary sources included the literature relevant to these areas.

Social Sciences

A TESTED METHOD TO ASSESS AND PREDICT WEATHER-CRIME ASSOCIATION

Mofza Algahtany[a]
[a]University of New England, Australia
Email: malgahta@gmail.com

Abstract

Sociologists, criminologists and geographers have investigated the causes behind crime commission, and why common crime occurred in some societies more than others. Each group has been researched depending on their specialization. Some tend to seek the influence of climate on crime and human behaviour. Many studies have been conducted on climate and weather elements such as temperature, humidity and precipitation. However, view studies which focused on haze as one of weather elements and gave a measurable correlation with crime. Studying crime and weather-association for a short period, seasonally or monthly could be more accurate than annual or long term analysis to assess the effects of weather elements on criminal activities. We added the haze as one of the weather variable to investigate its effects on criminal and compare its effects with temperature and humidity. We have used both monthly crime data and monthly weather records to build a tested regression model to get as much as possible accurate result, including a prediction model that can predict crime cases under the three weather factors which are temperature, humidity and haze values. We have applied this model in two different climate provinces in Saudi Arabia which are Riyadh and Makkah, where Riyadh is a desert area and has observed haze on average around 17 days a month, while Makkah is a coastal area and it had observed haze on average around 4 days a month. We found that there was a measurable relationship between each of those three variables and criminal activities. However, haze was the most variable affect theft, drug and assault in Riyadh comparing with other elements. Temperature and humidity were the efficacious variables in Makkah province, while there was no effective influence of haze, where it does not have the amount of haze that can be effective variable on crime rate.

Keywords: Crime, Human Behaviour, Crime & Weather Association.

SPIRITUAL EDUCATION FOR YOUNG ADOLESCENTS IN MALAYSIA VIA mLEARNING: NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Nur`Izzah Norman [a], MohdAl`Ikhsan Ghazali [b], Nurul Ain Norman [c]
[ab] University of Technology Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
[c] University of Malaya, Malaysia
Corresponding email: iz1308@gmail.com

Abstract

Adolescents are ranked in the search for its own identity, which is also said to be unique in the growing stage. In the search for identity, physical and spiritual growth should also be in line to ensure the development of a healthy life. Likewise, technology of the world is growing rapidly, and this affects the lifestyles of adolescents. mLearning use is also expected to be popular for their education. Adopting a theoretical framework based on literature review of spiritual education for adolescents this article explore some keys about the needs of spiritual education for young adolescents in Malaysia. This paper reports on needs assessment of spiritual education for Malaysian young adolescents via mLearning. Findings of the study are discussed in light of conceptual model for spiritual education in Malaysia

Keywords: Spiritual Education, Adolescents, mLearning, Needs Assessment

Social Sciences

ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE VERSUS NATIONAL CULTURE: A CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE ON ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING CAPABILITY OF THE WORKFORCE

Naniek Setijadi [a], Roy Pratikno [b]
[ab] Universitas Pelita Harapan, Jakarta, Indonesia
Corresponding email: naniek.setijadi@uph.edu

Abstract

Demographic change is the main reason organizations need to adapt their practices in order to respond to increasing diversity within labor markets. Human learning in an organizational context is strongly influenced by the organization, having consequences to the organization, which results at an organizational level can only be inferred by observing the learning process of everyone within it. A proponent of the organizational culture would argue that organizational culture has a profound impact on the performance and sustainability to the organization; yet, the supporters of national culture believe that national cultures can play a role in distracting or strengthening the organizational culture to shape the organization and boost the performance of the organization. Some scholars pose questioned whether national cultures constrain organizational culture (Gerhart, 2008); while some argued that to achieve great performance, an organization should pay attention to national culture (Hofstede, 2001). This study aimed to investigate the organizational learning capability among employees, as organizational culture intertwined with different national cultures. Data are collected by interviewing Expatriates and local workforce in two multinational companies and one higher education institution in Jakarta; exploring individual perceived organizational learning capability: experimentation, risk taking, interaction with the external environment, dialog, and participative decision making.

Keywords: Organizational Culture; National Culture; Cross-culture & Individual Organizational Learning Capability.

HUMANITY, ENERGY AND LAW: EXPERIENCES, URGENCIES AND CHALLENGES IN INDIA

Prof. M. Afzal Wani[a]
[a]GGS Indraprastha University, Delhi, India
Email: m_afzalwani@yahoo.co.in

Abstract

Human beings are one of the varieties of life on the planet earth. They need energy to survive and sustain their activities. They have a thinking mind, a punching hand and erect posture. That gives them an advantage on all other forms of creation, including animals and plants. They can feel, experience, ponder, measure, make and manage. They can produce more energy on need and regulate it when in excess, therefore, owing a responsibility to themselves for their sustenance and much more to other forms of matter and life, whether animate or inanimate.

There are multiple types of energy which can change form and each kind is put to use as per requirement. There are sources and techniques for production of energy which have to be used cautiously and carefully to the advantage of everything around. Human wisdom, i.e., ability and capacity to perceive, ponder and prepare has to control and regulate the process of energy production, proliferation and utilization to its best. It should not allow anything that can bring in misuse, overuse and devastation.

Historically, human beings have the experience of using all forms of energy from conventional sources of wind, wood, water and waste up to mineral reserves and nuclear backup. Met with, besides situations of harmony and peace, with disharmony, hate and war, the unwanted production, misuse and overuse of energy has been a part of human history. That has lessons to teach enough and experience to learn much. Time is to wake up, realize, rationalize, respond and assure a safe environment to sustain.

Social Sciences

The quantum of energy the world is to use in coming times from now involving the process of production and emissions with use of resources is one of the biggest challenges before humanity. Devastating indicators are the ensuing change in temperature, melting of ice sheets, rise in sea level, diminishing fauna and flora, decreasing food supply, reduction of water resources, drought, disease, tornadoes, storms (with or without rain, hail and snow), barren soil, poisonous air, geopolitical disasters, dismay and disappointment.

In the presentation at the Conference, the present author would describe the situation in India and how that is being mitigated.

Keywords: Humans, Energy & Energy production.

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Suite 1A Level 2, 802 Pacific Highway
Gordon NSW 2072, Australia
FAX: (+61) 02 9844 5445
Tel: (+61) 0420 963 175

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