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## INFLUENCE OF PERCEIVED LACK OF ACCOMMODATION AND SELF- ESTEEM ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AMONG UNDERGRADUATES OF BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY, MAKURDI

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### Introduction

Achieving a high academic performance is a desired dream of every Nigerian undergraduate, lecturer and the institution. On the part of undergraduate, which is concern of this study there is a high competition in the labour market in the country. In order to achieve this desired dream several factors must be considered to actualize the result. These factors among many include accommodation, financial out keep, the students' personality- self-esteem,

### Abstract

*An investigation into the influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance was conducted in a survey of 284 participants drawn from undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. The participants made up of 186 (61.97%) males, 108 (38.03%) females took part in the study. Self developed questionnaire with 15 items and Cronbach alpha value of 0.663 and the Rosenberg scale developed by Morris Rosenberg in 1965 with Cronbach alpha value of 0.77 and 10 items were used for data collection. The findings showed there is a statistical significant relationship between perceived lack of accommodation and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $F, df = 281 = 52.105; p < 0.05$ ). The findings also showed that there is no*

**S**tatistical significant relationship between self-esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. ( $F, df = : 281) = .069; p > 0.05$ ). The findings further indicate that there is no statistical significant interaction effect of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $F, df = : 281) = 3.126; p > 0.05$ ). These findings were discussed within the frame work of perceived lack of accommodation, self-esteem and academic performance. The study recommended that the state government and University managers should increase allocation of funds to provide for more hostel accommodation to facilitate learning in the school.

**Keywords:** Academic Performance, Perceived lack of Accommodation, Self-Esteem, Undergraduates and University

**a**mong others. Academic performance as noted by Suh and Suh (2006) involves a student's psychological investment in learning, comprehending, and mastering knowledge.

The concept of academic performance is view as the outcome of education which focuses on the extent to which a student, teacher or institution has achieved their educational goals (Annie, Howard & Mildred, 1996). It can be argued here that achieving academic performance is paramount to undergraduate students, lecturers and the institution itself. The academic performance of undergraduate students is considered as a vital indicator of measuring students' academic success at university level. Students who graduate with higher class of degree at university are more likely to secure good employment.

According to Hewitt (2009), self-esteem reflects a person's overall subjective emotional evaluation of his or her own worth. This deals with a judgment of oneself as well as an attitude toward the self. Self-esteem is divided into two types: low self-esteem and high self-esteem. According Hale (2001), low self-esteem correlates positively with low academic achievement, and high self-esteem correlates positively with high academic achievement. These findings have been considered as general assumption for many previous researches conducted to examine the relationship between self-esteem and academic performance.

Some scholars like Baumeister, Campbell, Krieger and Vows, (2003) argue that many people with high self-esteem exaggerate their successes and positive traits. These scholars maintain that high self-esteem people often accept their good qualities along with narcissistic, defensive, and conceited traits. However, modest correlations between self-esteem and school performance do not indicate that high self-esteem leads to good performance (Baumeister et al., 2003). This position shows that boosting of self-esteem little or no result to improve in academic performance.

Students' accommodation is considered as a hostel which is a built with some institutional or formal characteristics and where students have access to the university recreational facilities. In this regard, life for the students is smart, active, disciplined, and tolerant and socialized with other students and roommates, sharing space and facilities (Khozaei, Ramayah, & Hassan, 2012). This contributes to achieving a high class of degree in higher institutions of learning.

Sharma (2012) argues that student hostel is viewed as an accommodation that is specifically designed to accommodate students, such as a 'live-in' residential college, boarding house or other purpose built development containing student units with other combined ancillary facilities such as study areas, communal lounge, laundry, toilets and kitchens. It important to note that when this provision is made available, learning for students is not distracted. They can focus mainly on their academics or studies.

The over growing students population in recent time in the public university has indeed create the shortage of accommodation spaces to undergraduate students. Duangpracha (2012) avers that housing shortage and the large increase in property prices as well as rental accommodation availability and access has led to a large problem for all institutions in meeting housing needs in the local areas surrounding education providers. This of course makes it difficult for undergraduate students find suitable housing on account of the scarcity of residential hall accommodation around the university community. The provision of accommodation on campus to students plays a fundamental role of influencing high academic performance. It is from this backdrop that all universities in the country and beyond made provision of accommodation to their undergraduate students. This development of providing accommodation to undergraduate students by Benue State University, Makurdi has little or no result as a result of negligence on the part of state

government and university managers to provide sufficient accommodation spaces on the university campus. Chiguvi and Ndoma (2018) stress that poor hostel accommodation is one of the major factors that is responsible for poor academic performance.

Looking at the students' growing over population of Benue State University, Makurdi as well as the challenge of securing hostel accommodation on the campus for undergraduates, it has become imperative for the researchers to investigate on the influence of lack of accommodation and self-esteem to if this can affect students' academic performance.

### **Statement of the Problem**

There is a general assumption that student's personality - self-esteem determines the undergraduate students' academic performance. It is generally believed that student with high self-esteem seem to do better than those with low self-esteem. Relatively, the issue of accommodation has been increasingly become a challenge because of shortage of accommodation hostels to students in most of the universities in the country. The above challenges are also perceived among undergraduate students of Benue State University, Makurdi. The present study attempts to examine the influence of lack of accommodation and self-esteem on undergraduates' academic performance at Benue State University, Makurdi. This study argues that lack of undergraduates' accommodation and self-esteem may affect students' high academic performance at Benue State University, Makurdi.

### **Aim of the Study**

The aim of the study is to investigate the influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on student's academic performance at Benue State University, Makurdi. This aim is backed with the following specific objectives:

- i. To determine if there will be any significant influence of perceived lack of accommodation on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- ii. To determine if there will be any significant relationship between self-esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

- iii. To determine the combined influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

### Research Questions

The following research questions were raised:

- i. Will there be any significant influence of perceived lack of accommodation on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi?
- ii. Will there be any significant relationship between self-esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi?
- iii. Will there be any combined influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi?

### Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were postulated for the study:

- i. There will be a significant influence of perceived lack of accommodation on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- ii. There will be a significant relationship between self-esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- iii. There will be a combined influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

### Theoretical Framework

#### Literature Review

The present study reviews literature on school accommodation and students' self-esteem on academic performance to fill the gap of this study. Literature addressing the issue of school accommodation on academic performance is much more available as well students' self-esteem on academic performance. However, literature that handles the two variables is very little or no at all.



Abdullah (2000) conducted a study to examine the relationship among achievement motivation, self-esteem, and locus of control and academic performance of university students in a Nigerian University. The purpose of the study was to determine the extent university student's academic performance was influenced by the above mentioned variables. The findings revealed that the subjective independent variables did not predict objective measure of the students' academic performance.

Bell (2009) examines the impact of self-esteem and identification with academics on the academic achievement of African American students in a charter school setting and found out that there was no differences in self-esteem and identification with academics for the control group and experimental groups. Similarly to the above findings, Mohammad (2010) investigates the relationship between self-esteem and academic achievement in the pre-university students and found out that there was significant positive relationship between self-esteem and academic achievement; there was significant difference in academic achievement between boys and girls. However, the study shows no significant difference in self-esteem between males and females. The author concludes that high self-esteem is important factor and strengthens that predicate academic achievement in students.

Ulrich (2010) investigates the relationship between self-esteem and academic achievement along with suggestions for student interventions and treatments. The study argues that academic achievement has an effect on self-esteem. This seems to be contrary with other researches that found that self-esteem has an effect on academic achievement (Hale, 2001; Baumeister et al., 2003). Ulrich (2010) argues that school counselling interventions is key in improving both self-esteem and academic achievement as conditions in building an effective comprehensive guidance curriculum for students.

Arshad, Zaidi and Mahmood (2015) conducted a study to assess the self-esteem and academic performance among university students. Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale and Academic Performance Rating Scale were used to measure students' self-esteem and academic performance. These scholars found that there was a significant relationship between self-esteem and academic performance. The findings of the study further indicate that significant difference exists between male and female students on self-esteem and academic performance scores, which revealed that female students have

high scores on academic performance as compared to male students and male students have high scores on self-esteem as compared to female students.

Spio-Kwofie, Anyobodeh and Abban (2016) assess the accommodation challenges faced by students Polytechnic. The study was aimed at assessing the state and condition of students' accommodation. The study found out that there was a level of dissatisfaction with unsatisfactorily state and condition of available student accommodation facilities, the inadequacy of the existing facilities which has created high occupancy ratio and some sanitation challenges have invariable led to over utilization of the available resources putting the facilities in deplorable conditions. This implies that when students are not satisfied with accommodation facilities it leads to poor academic performance.

Ahmad, Shahid and Banu (2018) investigate "Hostel Life and Educational Performance: A Comparative Study of University Students, Pakistan". The study was conducted to find out the limitations and problems experienced by the migrated students of university of management and technology and the effect of these problems on academic performance of migrated students. The study establishes that the academic performance of migrated students is lower than non-migrated and as such this restrains their good educational achievements. It was found out that either migration has equal impacts on male and female as well as to what extent the educational performance of migrated students is different from non-migrated. The study concluded that the life patterns regarding education, health, social and economic of migrated students have great differences than others.

Chiguvu and Ndoma (2018) study the effects of shortage of accommodation on students' performance in the private tertiary institutions. The major findings of study showed that of space for construction of student hostels and lack of partnership between government and private tertiary institutions are some of the major causes to shortage of student accommodation. The study further found out that lack of hostel accommodation encourages truancy and consequently poor concentration on academic work.

### Methodology

For the purpose of achieving the research objectives, the study adopted a cross sectional descriptive survey. The study employed a convenience sampling method. This is because of the feasible nature of the approach

compared to probability sampling method. The researchers distributed 320 copies of the questionnaire among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi, Nigeria. They were distributed to both male and female undergraduates. The data gathered indicated that, 176 (61.97%) of the participants were males, while 108 (38.03%) were females. 103 (36.27%) participants were 200 level, 110 (38.73%) were 300 level while 71 (25%) are 400 level. Distribution of respondents' level of self-esteem shows that 160 participants were low on self-esteem with a mean and standard deviation of 2.79 and 0.683 respectively while 125 participants were high on self-esteem with a mean deviation of 2.70 and 0.658 standard deviation. Out of the 320 questionnaires distributed only 298 copies were returned and 284 were found usable.

### Instruments

The questionnaire consisted of three parts: section one measured the demographic characteristics of the respondents, section two measured perceived lack of accommodation and section three measured self-esteem.

Demographic characteristics was measured using 6 item subscale, sample items of this scale include: information such as sex, course of study, religious affiliation, age, level of study and cumulative grade point average. Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement for each statement by ticking and writing their response.

Perceived lack of accommodation was measured using 15 items scale whereby participants responded to the items as it was applicable to them using 4 point Likert scale ranging from 1 (strongly agree) to 4 (strongly disagree).

The reliability of perceived lack of accommodation scale was reported to have .663 as reliability and validity coefficients.

Self-esteem was measured using 10 item scale developed by Morris Rosenberg in 1965. Respondents indicated the extent of their agreement with each item on a scale from 1 (strongly agree) to 4 (strongly disagree). It has Reliability (Cronbach's alpha) value of 0.77. The coefficient indicated that the scale is dependable and consistent.

For the purposes of this study, Academic performance was measured through the Cumulative Grade point Average (CGPA), which was computed based on participants' last semester's result.



### Procedures for Data Collection

The researchers personally administered the questionnaires to the respondents at their various lecture halls and departmental resort (parks).

### Method of Data Analysis

Several techniques were used to analyze the data. The descriptive statistics such as frequencies and simple percentages were employed to summarize the characteristics of the respondents. To assess the strength of relationships between the study variables, Pearson's correlation coefficient was employed. ANOVA was used to measure the influence of independent variables of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on student's academic performance.

### Results

**Table 1: Coefficients showing the influential strengths of self esteem and perceived lack of accommodation on academic performance**  
Dependent variable: Academic performance/CGPA

Sources of variance	sum of Square	Df	mean of Square	F-ratio	Sign.
Self esteem	.027	1	.269	.069	.792
Perceived lack of accommodation	19.958	1	19.958	.52105	.000
Self-esteem and Perceived lack of accommodation	1.197	1	1.197	3.126	.078
Error	107.632	281	.383		
Corrected Total	128.814	284			

Significant at 0.05

Source: SPSS analysis

**Hypothesis 1:** There will be a significant influence of perceived lack of accommodation on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

Tests of between subject effect presented in table 1 above shows that there is a statistical significant relationship between perceived lack of accommodation and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue

State University. ( $F, df = 281 = 52.105; p < 0.05$ ). Therefore, the alternative hypothesis has been accepted and the null hypothesis has been rejected.

**Hypothesis 2:** There will be a significant relationship between self esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

The result for tests of between subject effects presented in table one above indicates that there is no statistical significant relationship between self esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University. ( $F, df=281=0.069; p>0.05$ ). Therefore, the alternative hypothesis has been rejected and the null hypothesis has been accepted.

**Hypothesis 3:** There will be a combined influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

Furthermore, there is no statistical significant interaction effect of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State university as shown in table one above. ( $F, df=281=3.126; p>0.05$ ). Therefore, the alternative hypothesis has been rejected and the null hypothesis has been accepted.

## Discussions

The primary aim of this study is to assess the influence of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. The study samples 284 undergraduates that made up 186 (61.97%) males and 108 (38.03%) females that took part in the study. This shows the male population has dominated the institution. Importantly, the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents had provided the framework for the discussions of the major findings of the study that was based on the three hypotheses tested above.

The result from the first hypothesis shows there is a statistical significant relationship between perceived lack of accommodation and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $F, df = 281 = 52.105; p < 0.05$ ). This finding is in agreement with most of the findings presented in the literature review. These studies include those by Chiguvu and Ndoma (2018) who strongly argue that lack of hostel accommodation leads to poor concentration on academic work. Scholars like Chukwu (2001); Joan (2010) and Oluwaseyi (2015) also supported this

finding. This shows that securing a good conducive hostel accommodation by the students encourages good or high academic performance especially at university level.

The result from the second hypothesis indicates no statistical significant relationship between self-esteem and academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $F, df= 281) = .069; p > 0.05$ ). This finding is in line with the previous studies conducted by Abdullah (2000); Bell (2009). These scholars in their separate studies affirmed that correlations between self-esteem and academic performance do not indicate that self-esteem leads to good performance. Achieving academic performance especially at university level has nothing to do with students' self-esteem. This finding opposes the general assumption that students' self-esteem influences their academic performance. Abdullah (2000) stresses that there are psycho-sociological evidences that show lack of achievement motivation and low self-esteem, creates in students lack of interest to strive for high academic performances, and as well as zeal to contribute positively to national development. These psycho-sociological evidences have no tangible influencing effect on undergraduate students of Benue State University, Makurdi.

The result from the third hypothesis shows there is no statistical significant interaction effect of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $F, df=281) = 3.126; p > 0.05$ ). This finding is in agreement with recent studies conducted by Chiguvi and Ndoma (2018) who argue that students' accommodation has no link with academic pursuit. It is therefore implies that there is no interaction effect of perceived lack of accommodation and self-esteem on academic performance among undergraduates of Nigerian universities.

### Conclusion

From the major findings, the following conclusions have been drawn:

This study perceived lack of accommodation was investigated in relation to academic performance. However, the result shows that perceived lack of accommodation of undergraduates has a significant influence on academic performance of undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. It's most

likely when students have accommodation on campus they will do better academically.

Self-esteem did not predict academic performance of undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. This relationship shows that the way undergraduates feel about themselves has no significant implications on their academic performance.

### Recommendations

In view of the major findings of the study as revealed in the discussions, the study puts forward the following recommendations:

1. The state government and University managers should increase allocation of funds to provide for more hostel accommodation to facilitate learning on the campus.
2. The government should provide land where student hostels will be built, especially near the institutions where students can easily have access and provide a walking distance.
3. Non-Government organizations should compliment government efforts by provide funding for the construction of students' hostel.
4. Hostel space design should be more flexible to accommodate more student population and should not be allowed to accommodate beyond the maximum student population.

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