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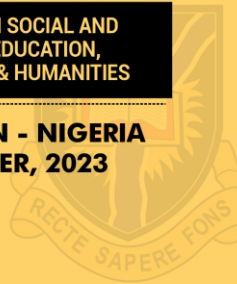
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**ABSTRACTS
&
PROCEEDINGS**

THEME: RESEARCH ISSUES IN SOCIAL AND
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES, EDUCATION,
TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT & HUMANITIES

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN - NIGERIA
10TH - 11TH OCTOBER, 2023





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THEME (1): Methodology Skills in Writing Research for Scopus & Scimago Journals

THEME (2): Research Issues in Social and Management Sciences, Education Environment & Humanities

DATE: Tuesday 10th – Wednesday 11th October, 2023

TIME: 9:00am

VENUE: University of Ibadan, Nigeria

CONFERENCE LOC:

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University of Ibadan, Nigeria
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DAY ONE – Tuesday 10th October, 2023

OPENING SESSION/PLENARY

Conference Registration	- 8:00am – 9:00am
Opening Prayer/Welcome Remark	- 9:00am – 9:15am
Institutional Brief/Chairman's Opening Remark	- 9:15am – 9:30am
Research Training	- 9:30am – 12noon
Launch Break/Group Photograph	- 12noon – 1:00pm
Plenary Session	- 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Policy Review Session	- 4:00pm – 5:00pm

DAY TWO – Wednesday 10th October, 2023

OPENING SESSION/PLENARY

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Conference Abstracts

Quantitative Approach in Management Science Research: Issues and Policy Options

Imoh Imoh-Ita

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Obio Akpa Campus, Akwa Ibom State University*

Abstract

Quantitative approach is central to current discussions in management science research. For some, management science research especially public administration is less quantitative. For others, management science research adopts quantitative approaches. Faced with this major research contention, this paper aims to make a new contribution, which discusses and clarifies quantitative approaches in management science research. There is now a considerable and diverse scholarship on quantitative research methods in management science, including questions of data collection, and analysis, focusing on gathering numerical data and generalizing it across group of people or to explain a particular phenomenon. Yet the practical implications or application of quantitative approaches are still contested as little is known among scholars about the specific empirical or quantitative approaches in management science. Importantly, the broader terrain within which management science research is conducted is rapidly changing bringing new challenges to the understanding of quantitative approaches. This paper seeks to fill this research gap, it builds on content analysis methodology and shows that management science research adopts quantitative methods, which emphasizes objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through polls, questionnaires, and surveys, or by manipulating pre-existing statistical data using computational techniques. Our findings show that quantitative approach is multidisciplinary in the fields such as public policy analysis, marketing and public administration. In the alternative, the paper contributes to the understanding and engagement of researchers in management science by addressing the relationship between management science and quantitative approaches, and also with policy makers and researchers involved in the debates about the role of quantitative research in management science for future research. Conclusion shows how the study will help better understand the importance of management science research for researchers and policy-making in the larger context of management science research.

Keywords: *Research, Quantitative Approach, Management Science, Empirical Study, Methodology*

Research Issues in Fine and Applied Arts Education and Industry: Roadmaps for Economic Revitalisation

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Abstract

The practice of fine and applied arts revolves around promoting crafts activities as well as providing a consistent means of livelihood for persons who have found interest in creativity. However, due to many families' economic hardship, tertiary courses are often measured in terms of their perceived economic viability, as a result art courses are not seen as desirable by most young persons who have flair for it. These lingering challenges have continued to diminish the interest of would, be young artist in pursuing career in the field, resulting in a reduction in new students' enrolment into art schools and department of fine arts in tertiary institutions. As one of the roadmaps to education system need be tailored towards what the contemporary industry demand, hence the thought of rebranding fine and applied art as well as exposing undergraduates to some of the industrial needs of their field and at the same time preparing them for their future self-reliance. The paper seeks to project relevant workable achievable strategies to resolves these challenges. It also takes exception in the fact that fine and applied art education of various institution of higher learning, stakeholders and those saddle with responsibilities of educational administration will be responsive to those challenges that seem to negate to large extent the optimum realities of the nation's aspirations.

Keywords: *Research Issues, Fine and Applied Arts, Education and Industry, Roadmaps, Economic Revitalisation*

An Exploration of Nigeria's Food Security Dilemma

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Abstract

This paper explores Nigeria's dilemma in her strive to achieve and sustain food security which is a top priority of every state, irrespective of its national, regional and global strength in economic, political, military and other perspectives. Currently, Nigeria being the dominant African state is in a dilemma of not only achieving, but also sustaining her food security as many parts of the country rely on humanitarian assistance and or food importation with stressed, famine and crisis situations. The paper is qualitative and collects data from secondary sources as journals, books, official reports, international Governmental and Non-Governmental statistics, The dilemma of Nigeria's food security centre around several factors and issues with interplay by both natural and human factors which altogether not only threaten but weaken the drive to achievement and sustenance of food security. The study explores the dilemma with multi-dimensioned issues of climate change, misconception of food security itself, inconsistent, non-sustainable and incoherent government policies on agriculture and food, faulty and un-uniformed land tenure system and management, food wastages of nearly 30% of total food production, conflicts, proliferation of fake and adulterated agro-allied chemicals in the agro-allied industry, poor usage of agricultural technology, unfavourable market conditions, plant and animal diseases, access to financial resources, rapid population growth without commensurate food production, food poisoning, among others. For Nigeria like other states, food security is both complex and diverse to conceive, manage and achieve, but it is not what can be achieved ordinarily and not over short period of time. Concerted public and private policies and efforts, strong public and private commitments of energy, time, and huge resources have to be made.

Keywords: *Agriculture, Dilemma, Food security, Land, Nigeria.*

Problems in Carrying Out Research in Libraries: The Case of Colleges of Education Library Users in Delta State, Nigeria

Governor, A. Henry

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Asaba, Delta State.*

Abstract

The aim of the study is to point out problems of carrying out research by students in Colleges of Education via the libraries in Delta State. Libraries have been adjudged as the heart of tertiary education in which Colleges of Education is a member. College libraries have started digitalizing its collections as well as acquisition of digital resources in order to promote quality educational research. This paper explains the problems faced by researchers in carrying out research in Colleges of Education libraries in Delta State, the role of libraries in promoting quality research through digital gadgets, challenges facing researchers in Colleges of Education libraries in a bid to meet their research needs as well as strategies to promote quality research in libraries through digital resources were discussed succinctly.

Keywords: *Problems, Research, Libraries, Users, Colleges of Education*

Wage Rate Determination in Nigeria: An Empirical Analysis (1991-2020)

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Lagos State University, Ojo

Abstract

This empirical research examines the determinants of wage rates in Nigeria from 1991 to 2020. The study utilizes ordinary least squares (OLS) regression to analyze the relationship between minimum wages and key factors, including inflation rate, unemployment rate, education, labor productivity and experience, and other estimation techniques using (E-views) to forecast. The dataset is obtained from the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The objective is to provide insights into wage determinants in Nigeria and offer guidance to policymakers to prioritize equal access to quality education and create an inclusive workforce that promotes equal opportunities for all individuals and help to implement measures that combat inflation and reduce unemployment rates. Controlling inflation through prudent monetary policies and implementing targeted fiscal policies can help stabilize prices and protect workers' purchasing power by promoting job creation and implementing labor market reforms to help reduce unemployment rates and create more employment opportunities, leading to improved wage rates. The study suggests that policymakers should prioritize improving educational attainment, particularly among women, tackling inflation, and unemployment, and implementing policies to foster the growth of high-wage industries. By addressing these variables, policymakers can effectively raise wage rates in Nigeria and contribute to overall economic improvement.

Keywords: *Wage rate, labor market regulations, industry, education, and gender.*

Research Issues in Social and Management Sciences, Education, Technology, Environment and Humanities

Eboraka, Nkechi Faith
Dennis Osadebay University

Abstract

Research is the systematic investigation of a phenomenon, and the study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions. For any society to achieve growth, research must be a fundamental component of that society, it is little wonder therefore that a lot of energy is dispelled into the conduction of meaningful research. That is why this paper, will attempt to look at the challenges that researchers in the humanities face, most especially historians in an attempt to reconstruct past events, the paper will also highlight the importance of these “researches” to posterity and ways that that prospective researchers can combat this challenges that researchers face in the humanities.

Keywords: *Research, Issues, Humanities, Challenges, Funding.*

Healthcare Financing Effect on Economic Growth in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study examined the effects of healthcare financing on economic growth in Nigeria using quarterly data from 2000 to 2022. In a bid to achieve this broad objective, three healthcare financing variables, namely, domestic government health expenditure, domestic private health expenditure and out-of-pocket health expenditure were used to explore their effects on economic growth in Nigeria. Data employed for the study were sourced from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the World Bank's World Development Indicators (WDI). The study used the Auto-Regressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) bounds testing procedure to estimate the model, given that the data used for the model estimations were integrated of order I (1) and I (0). The results revealed no long-run relationship amongst the variables. The ARDL short-run estimation revealed that domestic government health expenditure has no significant impact on economic growth in Nigeria, domestic private health expenditure has a positive and significant impact on economic growth in Nigeria, while out-of-pocket health expenditure has a negative and significant impact on economic growth in Nigeria. This study established that both domestic private health expenditure and out-of-pocket healthcare expenditure have significant short-run effects on economic growth in Nigeria. In view of the above, the study recommends increasing the overall expenditure on health, albeit a target-based health expenditure, that is associated with good governance of healthcare funds.

Keywords: *Healthcare Financing, Economic Growth, Nigeria*

Macroeconomic Variables on the Performance of Small – Medium Enterprises: The Financing Decision

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²*Economics Department, Nile University of Nigeria*

Abstract

This study set out to investigate the effect of macro-economic variables on the performance of SMEs in Nigeria; the financing decision in response to the growing emphasis on the role of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in fostering economic growth. The main goal was to ascertain the effects of several factors on SME performance, including the currency rate, interest rate, inflation rate, foreign direct investment, and degree of economic openness. The study employed a quantitative approach, utilizing a series of diagnostic checks, cointegration results, and unit root tests and ARDL as methods to scrutinize the interrelationships among these variables. Findings highlighted the exchange rate's negative and significant impact on SME performance. SMEs were seen to be particularly vulnerable to rapid exchange rate fluctuations, which in turn affected their operational costs and competitiveness. Conversely, the interest rate showed no significant positive impact on SMEs, suggesting that current monetary policy may not be optimally supportive of this business segment. Similarly, the inflation rate's role was found to have negative and insignificant effect on SME performance. In a more positive light, foreign direct investment (FDI) displayed a clear positive and significant effect on SMEs, indicating its potential as a catalyst for growth and technological transfer. Lastly, the degree of economic openness was found to have a robust positive influence on SMEs, with open markets facilitating greater trade and access to international markets for Nigerian businesses. Specific recommendations were then drawn from these findings. Among these, stabilizing the exchange rate and creating an investor-friendly environment to attract more FDI were paramount. Furthermore, the Central Bank of Nigeria was advised to consider revisiting its interest rate benchmarks and anti-inflationary strategies to create a more conducive atmosphere for SMEs. Lastly, the importance of tapping into the benefits of economic openness through revisited trade policies and enhancing local SMEs' export potential was underscored.

Keywords: *Exchange Rate, Interest Rate, Inflation Rate, Foreign Direct Investment, And Degree of Economic Openness and SME performance*

