

POLYTECHNIC EDUCATION IN GHANA THE CASE OF THE HND ESTATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

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POLYTECHNIC EDUCATION IN GHANA

THE CASE OF THE HND ESTATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

KEY WORDS

- POLYTECHNIC
- TECHNICAL EDUCATION
- MIDDLE-LEVEL MANPOWER
- TECHNICIAN ESTATE MANAGERS
- HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA

INTRODUCTION

- **Polytechnics In Ghana**
 - Tertiary Institutions Specialised in Middle-Level Technical Education
 - Before 1993, the polytechnics were running second-cycle courses and the universities were running higher tertiary courses creating a gap in the country's manpower needs
 - In 1993, the polytechnics were upgraded to tertiary institutions to train middle-level technical manpower

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLYTECHNICS

- Provide tertiary technical education in manufacturing, commerce, science, technology, applied social science and arts.
- Encourage study in technical subjects at tertiary level
- Provide opportunity for research and publication of research findings.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION

- **The following institutions are responsible for quality assurance in polytechnic education**
 - Ministry of Education (MoE) has ministerial responsibility for all levels of education
 - National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE) advises the Ministry on matters relating to the development of tertiary education
 - National Accreditation Board (NAB) accredits programmes run in the polytechnics
 - National Board for Professional and Technical Education (NABPTEx) formulates and administer schemes of examinations

ROLE OF THE POLYTECHNICS IN SURVEYING EDUCATION

- Surveying technicians are indispensable in the collection and analysis of field data required for decision making
- Technical education in Building Technology is run in all Polytechnics
- Technical Education in Estate Management is run at K' Poly
- Plans are underway for the introduction of HND in Land Surveying

THE ESTATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AT K' POLY

- The Need for Technical Education in Estate Management
 - The efficiency of any organisation is linked to the physical environment within which it operates
 - The need to manage land and buildings and to ensure maximum utility and functionality
- Commencement of Programme
 - Programme commenced in 1995/96 Academic Year

THE PROGRAMME

- Entry Requirements
 - SSCE
 - Passes in English, Mathematics & Science Plus 3 Elective Passes including Geography and Economics with an aggregate not exceeding 24
- GCE
 - Five (5) G.C.E "O" Level Credits including English Language and Mathematics and 3 G.C.E "A" Level Passes including Geography and Economics plus General Paper
- Mature Applicants
 - Must be at least 30 years old
 - Must have five (5) GCE "O" Level credits including English Language and Mathematics
 - Must have relevant working experience (letter from employer is required)

REQUIREMENT FOR RETENTION

- Students are Expected to:
 - ✓ take part in all coursework which includes class work (theory and practicals), seminars and assignments
 - ✓ pass all subjects including those referred at the end of each academic year
 - ✓ maintain a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 1.50 throughout the duration of the programme

AWARD OF HND ESTATE MANAGEMENT

- At the end of the programme, successful students are awarded the Higher National Diploma by the Polytechnic in conjunction with the National Board for Professional and Technician Examinations (NABPTEX)
- For the award of the HND in Estate Management, a student must pass all subjects and completed one semester industrial attachment

PROGRAMME CONTENT

- YEAR ONE
 - Law II-Contract & Tort
 - Elements of Central & Local Government
 - Principles of Land Surveying
 - Principles of Accounting
 - Introduction to Valuation
 - Building Construction
 - Principles of Economics
 - Communication Skills
 - Computer Literacy
 - African Studies

PROGRAMME CONTENT CONT'D

YEAR TWO

- Law Relating to Estate Management
- Principles and Practice of Valuation
- Land Economics
- Building Construction
- Land Use Planning & Administration
- Property Management
- Research Methods
- Entrepreneurship

PROGRAMME CONTENT CONT'D

THIRD YEAR

- Practical Training in Industry
- Project work
- Technical Report
- Law Relating to Estate Management
- Principles & Practice of valuation
- Rating & Taxation
- Building Construction
- Elements of Building Quantities
- Property Management

The Industrial Attachment

- The department organises 6-months industrial attachment programme for its students to equip them with the skills needed for post-qualification employment
- Through the attachment, the department maintains a strong relationship with industry and the Ghana Institution of Surveyors through the many firms who are involved in the training of our students
- Lecturers in the department embark on periodic follow-up visits to assess the performance of the students at the workplaces
- Students submit reports on the attachment for assessment and grading
- The students defend their reports in the presence of their peers and lecturers for further assessment

Mandate of the Polytechnic

- To train middle-level skilled technical manpower to bridge the gap between the higher-level tertiary and second-cycle technical courses
- The Department of Estate Management has fulfilled its mandate by successfully training graduates to occupy middle-level management positions in:
 - Land Sector Agencies - Lands Commission, Land Valuation Board, Office of the Administrator of Stool Lands, Land Title Registry

Mandate of the Polytechnics

- Quasi-government institutions-State Insurance Company, Volta River Authority
- Universities and Polytechnics
- Ministries, Departments and Agencies and Metropolitan/Municipal/District Assemblies
- General Practice Surveying Firms

Staffing and Resources

- **Staffing**
 - full compliment of full-time teaching staff at post
 - part-time lecturers from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and service lecturers from within the Polytechnic support teaching work at the department

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- GhIS CPD PROGRAMMES
- INDUSTRIAL TRAINING
- SHORT COURSES –GIMPA, MDPI
- FURTHER EDUCATION THROUGH UPGRADING OF EXISTING STAFF

Facilities

- Physical facilities have improved as a result of assistance from
 - GETFUND
 - TALIF
- The proximity to KNUST, the Building and Road Research Institute (BRR) and the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG), provides the staff and students of the Department the opportunity of sharing human resources, library and other physical facilities

Funding

- The academic staff of the Polytechnics are eligible to access funds under:
 - The Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF)
 - NUFFIC of the Netherlands Government
 - Ghana Government Scholarships
- Additionally, the Polytechnics qualify for funding under the GETFund which can be used for expanding both academic and residential facilities

Challenges/Threats

- Competition for Quality Academic Staff and Students
- Misconception About the Nature and the Role of the Polytechnics

Prospects

- Graduates find employment in public and private institutions
- Plans are underway for the running of a Bachelor of Technology (B-Tech) in Estate Management
- Professional Recognition by the GhIS

Conclusion

- Polytechnics play a crucial role in the developmental process of Ghana by offering career-oriented and more practical programmes which provide the country with the middle-level manpower requirements.
- Most polytechnics graduates are expected to be self employed since they acquire practical skills in their training.
- The Bachelor of Technology (B-Tech) degrees to be run in the Polytechnics is intended to give polytechnic graduates an avenue for academic progression
- Improved infrastructure and funding coupled with staff training and strong linkage with industry has improved the quality of training
- The technician estate manager is adequately equipped to play a meaningful role in the land administration of this country. However, each graduate must prove his/her worth in the job market.

THANK YOU

- ▣ MERCI
- ▣ MEDA ASE
- ▣ AKPE