

Students' Perception of Academic Staff Quality: A Measure of Quality Assurance in South-South Nigerian Higher Institutions

Chineze M. Uche

*Department of Educational Management, University of Port-Harcourt, Choba,
Rivers State, Nigeria
E-mail: nezenwam@yahoo.com*

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ABSTRACT The objective of this study was to investigate students' perception of the quality of the academic staff. Two thousand from 4000 final year students in five faculties from four out of eight institutions in the South-South part of Nigeria were stratified and randomly selected for the study. Quality indicators' checklist and questionnaire called students-perception of academic staff quality (SPASQ) were the instruments used for data collection. Statistical tools such as mean scores, standard deviation, t-test and correlation coefficient were used for the data analysis. The findings indicate that the students rated the quality of the academic staff high, especially in terms of professional competence, but rated their supervision low. The students felt that the lecturers do not have enough time for students and do not prepare their lectures well. Recommendations made include regular seminars and workshops for academic staff to improve their communication skills for effective course delivery, encourage lecturers to make out more time and increase access to students.