

Postgraduate Throughput Trends: A Case Study at the University of Ghana

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ABSTRACT A common thread in contemporary research on postgraduate student throughput trends in higher education institutions refers to the ways in which the various stakeholders at tertiary institutions take important decisions to ensure a better completion rate (throughput) among the students. To further promote the appreciation of throughput among the students, this paper is based on an empirical study among a number of postgraduate students at the University of Ghana, reviews some trends and possible factors that might play a role in student throughput at this university. The outcomes of this study showed that student throughput at this institution had decreased over time due to, inter alia, financial difficulties; personal challenges and less opportunities for the students to get study leave from their employers. Most postgraduate students who combined studying with work were not able to devote adequate time to their studies. The paper concludes with recommendations to improve student throughput at postgraduate level.