

RESTRUCTURING ACCOUNTANCY PROGRAM OF NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES FOR THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT: STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Emeka-Nwokeji, N. A.
Anambra State University
NIGERIA

ABSTRACT

Accountancy program of Nigerian universities as currently structured is outdated and inappropriate in terms of helping graduates acquire the skills and competencies needed in the real world. This undoubtedly contributed to massive unemployment, high poverty rate, crime and other social ills experienced in the country. This motivated the study on restructuring accountancy program of Nigerian universities as strategies for sustainable development. Data were collected through questionnaire structured on 5 point Likert scale administered to major accounting stakeholders in Anambra State. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics and the three hypotheses formulated was tested for acceptance or rejection using z –test. The study revealed that co-op in the university accountancy program can facilitate wealth creation and accelerate economic growth. The study also indicated that co-op in the accountancy program of the university can increase graduates competitiveness in the marketplace for accounting positions. More so, integrating collaborative teaching in the accountancy program of Nigerian universities can significantly influence acquisition of problem solving and interpersonal skills needed to succeed in today's global accounting and business environment. The researcher recommended among other things, that there is need to restructure the curriculum significantly to react to the marketplace demands through integrating co-op program and collaborative teaching in the university accountancy program to develop graduates' skills greatly and also build a link between the profession, academics and industry.

Keyword: Co-operative education, accounting education, restructuring, sustainable development, collaborative.