

## EXAMINING PROCUREMENT PRACTICES OF PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES: A CASE STUDY OF UNIVERSITY OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES, ACCRA (UPSA)

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### ABSTRACT

Procurement in public universities is regulated by the Public Procurement Authority and its compliance enhances the efficiency in public financial management. Despite the fact that the adoption of procurement policies, rules and regulations are commendable, regrettably compliance with such policies, rules and regulations has become a problem. The researchers undertook a case study to examine the procurement practices of University of Professional studies. In view of this, the study was geared towards examining whether the University is compliant with the Public Procurement Act and also to assess whether UPSA procurement is transparent, accountable and efficient. The researchers adopted qualitative research technique in their study as a means of data collection. Primary and secondary data formed the source of data collection. Primary data was collected through conducted interviews. These interviews were carried out on various participants which included Head of Procurement Unit from Central Administration, Executives from the Students Representative Council and Various Departments. The study showed that management, the Students Representative Council and Departmental Executives are doing their best to improve the procurement processes. However, some lapses and weaknesses exist. Based on these, the study recommends that there is the need for Management to ensure transparency in procurement activities in the University.

**Keywords:** Management, procurement processes, procurement.