

THE IMPORTANCE OF TVET IN THE HOSPITALITY CURRICULUM

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ABSTRACT

There has always been a mixed reaction from researchers about graduates' disinclination in pursuing a career in the industry. Likewise, employers were reported to be dissatisfied with the hospitality graduates' job performance. This qualitative study aims to understand the importance of TVET in the hospitality curriculum in resolving the problem in Malaysia. Using purposive sampling, lecturers and employers were selected for semi-structured interviews. We employed the theoretical thematic analysis to analyze the data based on the CIPP evaluation model. The findings revealed that the lecturers preferred TVET approach and employers were reportedly more satisfied with the quality of the graduates from the program that heavily embeds technical skills than graduates from the same program with greater emphasis on academic. This signifies an urgent need for TVET to be embedded in the hospitality curriculum. Findings from this study will further enhance the understanding of the importance of TVET in the hospitality curriculum.

Keywords: TVET, evaluation, hospitality curriculum, Malaysia