

EXTERNAL REPORTING OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF
HIGHER LEARNING IN MALAYSIA:
AN EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION

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Submitted to the Faculty of Business and Accountancy,
University of Malaya, in partial fulfilment
of the requirements for the Degree of
Master Of Business Administration

October 2002



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research paper is specially dedicated to my beloved family for their love and undying support, to all my friends who are always there for me and to my supervisor, Dr Susela Devi for her kind assistance and expert guidance. Without all of you, this research would not have been possible. My sincere gratitude to all of you.

My appreciation also goes to many members of public institutions of higher learning and the Ministry of Education's official and staff for their co-operation. Last but not least to everyone in Bursar's Office of University Of Malaya. Many thanks to all of you.

ABSTRACT

This study provides empirical evidence on the external reporting as currently practice by public institutions of higher learning in Malaysia. It involves examining empirically the quality and quantity of information disclosed in annual reports of Malaysian public institutions of higher learning and to assess to what extent the report satisfies the public accountability requirements objective. This study is conceived from research that was conducted in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom, which used the Modified Accountability Disclosure Index (MAD)-score to assess public universities' external reporting to stakeholders groups. This study also provides empirical evidence on the current uses of annual reports of public universities by their users in Malaysia. It attempts to identify the extent the current annual reports satisfy the users' requirements. The study also identifies information that is expected by the current users of such reports. The implications arising from this study would be of interest to all parties that are involved in running the public universities and also for those who receive services from the universities.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CCAF	Canadian Comprehensive Auditing Foundation
CVCP	Committee Of Vice Chancellors and Principals
DEET	Department of Employment Education and Training
FASB	Financial Accounting Standard Board
GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
GASB	Governmental Accounting Standard Board
IPTA	Institut Pengajian Tinggi Awam (Public Institutions Of Higher Learning in Malaysia)
IPTS	Institut Pengajian Tinggi Swasta (Private Institutions Of Higher Learning in Malaysia)
MAD	Modified Accountability Disclosure
MASB	Malaysian Accounting Standard Board
MOE	Ministry of Education
NZSA	New Zealand Society of Accountants
SORP 1	Statements Of Recommended Practice Of Accounting 1
SORP 2	Statements Of Recommended Practice Of Accounting 2
SPSAC	Statement of Public Sector Accounting Concept
TEI	Tertiary education institutions
UK	United Kingdom
USA	United States Of America