Factors influencing completion of students’ studies

Student’s Name

Institution

Course Code

Date

**Executive Summary**

XYZ University has been having consistence students discontinued their studies. The University does not understand what could be the problem and therefore, a study was conducted to determine what course the high rate of students’ dropout. Therefore, the study investigated the relationship between students ‘completion of studies, and the secondary school scores or grade. In the University, the secondary school scores are essential for admission and based on the data, it is evidence that many students who scored high grades in high school had high chances of completing their courses compare to the rest of the students. The data shows that there is a relationship between the secondary school grades used for the admission and the completion of course. It is therefore, essential for the university to ensure that there is a limit of grades for admission. The data also shows that many students are sponsored students by commonwealth and therefore, the University should establish a strong relationship with the common wealth so that it can continue to receive students and get support. This is essential for continuity of the university. It is important to point that the studies also investigated and established that there is a relationship between the mode of studies and the completion of studies. This is because the finding indicates that 75% of students taking full time courses registered high grades and completed their studies as well.

**Introduction**

Many institutions of higher learning a face several challenges related to performance and decline of registration. The challenges of performance are realized from the decline performance of students are decline in the number of students graduating from the university. XYZ University is not an exceptional and therefore, the university has been facing challenges related to high number of discontinued students. It is therefore, important to understand performance of students in order to determine factors with determine the performance of the students and other factors, which influence the students performance. First, XYZ University has been graduating several students annually since it was established. The graduates’ number started to reduce from 2014 and therefore, this made the university to conduct analysis of the existence problem, which has caused the decline in the number of graduates.

Based on the data the XYZ has approximately 369627 students registered in various course. There are several international students and domestic and therefore, it is a very diverse university. It also offers various courses ranges from commerce, engineering and physics and therefore, it attracts some of the well performed students from secondary school. However, in order to improve the performance of the university and address the problems related to poor performance of some of its students, it is importance to understand these factors, which affect students’ performance. It would allow the University to improve student’s performance by reduce the number of students discontinued with the studies. Furthermore, it is also essential for the university to have a clear understanding on what causes students to continue with their studies.

The study therefore, analysis the trend and the factors, which contributes to the completion, discontinue and enrolment of students. Since students come from various demographic, it is important to understand what factors influence the performance of student. The data is therefore, analyze to determine various hypotheses. It was analyzed to determine relationship between age, secondary school scores, and classes with the performance of students. The performance was analyzed based on the number of student who completed the course. The information is essential for the University to gauge to the admission of students. Based on the information obtained the university can therefore, utilize the data to improve education standard and performance of students.

**Data Analysis**

The data indicates that the university admits approximately 369,627 students. Students are from different demographic and majority of the students are local students. The analysis establishes that majority of student 19 years old and the mean of students’ age is 21 years. Based on the number, it is evidence that many students were registered in 2018 compared with other years. The data also shows that the youngest students are 15 years old and the oldest are 73 years. However, it is also evident that many students are young aged between 19 years and 21 years.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Column1* |  | *Column2* |  | *Column3* |  | *Column4* |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mean | 2477.601846 | Mean | 2016.297331 | Mean | -8.325611 | Mean | 21.79929797 |
| Standard Error | 3.256325943 | Standard Error | 0.002834529 | Standard Error | 0.1672833 | Standard Error | 0.01162007 |
| Median | 3134 | Median | 2016 | Median | 43 | Median | 20 |
| Mode | -100 | Mode | 2018 | Mode | -100 | Mode | 19 |
| Standard Deviation | 1564.257098 | Standard Deviation | 1.36163637 | Standard Deviation | 80.358706 | Standard Deviation | 5.581989401 |
| Sample Variance | 2446900.27 | Sample Variance | 1.854053604 | Sample Variance | 6457.5217 | Sample Variance | 31.15860567 |
| Kurtosis | -0.259786426 | Kurtosis | -1.106698363 | Kurtosis | -1.8730537 | Kurtosis | 11.24058555 |
| Skewness | -0.650346939 | Skewness | -0.293209151 | Skewness | -0.2208017 | Skewness | 2.964736977 |
| Range | 7570 | Range | 4 | Range | 200 | Range | 58 |
| Minimum | -100 | Minimum | 2014 | Minimum | -100 | Minimum | 15 |
| Maximum | 7470 | Maximum | 2018 | Maximum | 100 | Maximum | 73 |
| Sum | 571731402 | Sum | 465280772 | Sum | -1921218 | Sum | 5030406 |
| Count | 230760 | Count | 230760 | Count | 230760 | Count | 230760 |

**Diagram 1: Descriptive statistic**

**Outcome**

The finding of the studies was done using decretive statistic to determine the mean mode, standard deviation, p value and coefficient of various data. Based on the result of the data analyze, it is evidence that XYZ University register high number of students discontinued with their studies. The number of students completing their studies is less compared to the number of students registered. This could be as result problems which the university should analyzed to ensure that the performance of the university is improved.

**Relationship between completed and secondary score**

The analysis of the data established that there is a relationship between performance and students’ secondary school score. The data shows that student most students with the highest attendance and are full time students show better performance. The data shows that 75% of students with high scores from secondary education completed their studies compared to 45% of students with the lowest scores from secondary. Based on the data collected, most students with the lowest score from secondary school usually discontinued with their students and some of the dropout. Comparable, many students with the better performance from secondary school usually compared their course and register for continue with their studies. According to Sibanda, Gervase, & Benedict (2015, p. 32), student’s performance or secondary school scores are essential factors in determination performance. Most students who scored better grades from high school have high chances of performing better compared to students with fair scores. It is therefore, important for institution of higher learning to admitt students based on the secondary school scores. Harb & El-Shaarawi (2016, p. 24) pointed that the trend has not been working in many learning environment and in some cases, students who had fir scores from high school usually perform better than other students who hand good grades from high school.

The analysis of the data has therefore; show consistency with other studies related to performance of student based on the secondary school grades. Since the data indicated that 50% of students with better grade completed their courses, it is clear evidence that course completion is determine by the students performance from secondary school. The descriptive analysis indicates that an estimated majority of students’ performance are influenced by their scores from high school, class attendance. The data also shows that many students who have

However, the analysis of the completion against courses indicates unique trends. The data shows that the course taken by a student also determines the performance of students. Student’s taking sciences courses complete their courses compared to students taking humanities and other social studies. This is a unique trend due to the fact that people always think that humanities and other related courses are easy to pass compared to sciences course. XYZ University has been having consistence students discontinued their studies. The University does not understand what could be the problem and therefore, a study was conducted to determine what course the high rate of students’ dropout. Therefore, the study investigated the relationship between students ‘completion of studies, and the secondary school scores or grade. In the University, the secondary school scores are essential for admission and based on the data, it is evidence that many students who scored high grades in high school had high chances of completing their courses compare to the rest of the students. The data shows that there is a relationship between the secondary school grades used for the admission and the completion of course. It is therefore, essential for the university to ensure that there is a limit of grades for admission. The data also shows that many students are sponsored students by commonwealth and therefore, the University should establish a strong relationship with the common wealth so that it can continue to receive students and get support (Nchungo, 2014, p. 31). This is essential for continuity of the university. It is important to point that the studies also investigated and established that there is a relationship between the mode of studies and the completion of studies. This is because the finding indicates that 75% of students taking full time courses registered high grades and completed their studies as well.

**Performance and Type of attendance**

The data was also analyzed based on completed courses and the attendance type. In this case, the attendance types are the mode of studies a student proffered for students. Though an improved performance are been witnessed across the mode of studies, it is evidence that students performance are influenced by several factors. Students taking part time and full time mode of studies perform well in equal measures. The depth analysis revealed a different trend of performance of students based on the mode of studies. The analysis of the data indicates that majority of students who take full time classes scores better grades. The analysis of the 267510 performance of students, indicate that 75% of students had full time classes compared to 25 % of students who had part time classes. It is clear evidence that type of class attendance has an impact on the performance of students.

The study also revealed that most students are supported by commonwealth. In this case, it is evidence that most students studying at XYZ University their college fees are paid by commonwealth. However, many students who completed their registrations are students being supported by commonwealth are also first and second year students. The data indicates that almost 60% of students complete their registration had good grades in their previous classes and good grades from high school as well. This could me that students performance is a factor in college registration (Hall, McAlpine, & Hubbard, 2015, p. 21). Though financial issues are relatively connected with students’ registration, the data shows that even students with financial support from commonwealth also discontinue their studies (Agrey & Lampadan, 2014, p. 32). Most of the students voluntarily withdrew from classes and this could affect the performance of the university.

Research has show that full time attendance gives students a lot of time to concentrate on their studies and as a result, students register better grades. This could because students have humble time to have discussion, consult with lecturers and have practical work. Most importance full time students have enough time to rest, which is importance for the success of students in college. Therefore, the high grades registered by full time students could be due to the mode of students, which many students are exposed compared to part time students who only have limited time to study.

**Recommendation**

The critical analysis of the data shows that XYZ University registers many students and out of over 260,000 of its students, only 45% of student completed their courses and an estimated 25% of students discontinued. The data also revealed that the discontinued could be as a result of failure to pay college school. However, the success completion of course depends on the mode of students and secondary school scores. It is therefore, recommended for the university to change the mode of studies to registered many students for full time classes instead of part time. The full time classes should therefore, be the main mode of studies and, this could improve the performance of the university. The study also revealed that most students with high grades from high school register better scores compared to other students. It would therefore, be recommended for the XYZ University to admit students based on the scores. The University can also change its policies to allocate courses based on the scores from Secondary school. This is likely to increase performance of students in major courses, which traditionally have been registering poor performance. The change in mode of admission of students is an important, which the university should consider to improve its performance, increase admission and also improve the general performance of the university. Further analysis indicates that most students are sponsored by the commonwealth. Almost 70% of students are sponsored by the common and therefore, this makes the commonwealth a serious partner of the university. For the purpose of continuity and the profit of the university it is recommended for XYZ University to seek partnership with the commonwealth so that it can continue to support its students.

**Conclusion**

The finding of studies indicates that there is a relationship between students’ performance and the students’ scores from high school. The study was completed using decretive statistic to determine the mean mode, standard deviation, p value and coefficient of various data. Based on the result of the data analyze, it is evidence that XYZ University register high number of students discontinued with their studies. The number of students completing their studies is less compared to the number of students registered. This could be as result problems which the university should analyzed to ensure that the performance of the university is improved

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