

Corruption: A Bane to Research in Tertiary Institutions in Delta State.

Asabor, Bivwiere Mary & Ikpeba, Violet Asua.

Department of Educational Foundations and Administration

College of Education, Agbor, Delta State.

Abstract

This study investigated the level of corruption in the Institutions of higher learning and the attendant negative impact on research in Delta State. The sample of 200 lecturers from four tertiary institutions filled and returned the questionnaires. The test/retest measure was used to ascertain the reliability of the instrument with a coefficient of 0.84 internal consistency when the results were analyzed using Cronbach Alfa (α). Analysis of data was carried out using means scores, frequency counts and ranking. The study found that they was wide spread corruption in tertiary institutions in the Delta State. This is the evidence in management of finance/grants for research. School budget allocation and utilization were not free from corrupt tendencies. In accessing grants, corrupt practices like briberies and payoffs, embezzlement, criteria bypass, academic fraud, favouritism, 'pork barrel', mismanagement etc. posed as stumbling blocks. It also find out that administrative bottlenecks further hindered access to research grants. All these impacted negatively on access, equity, quality and creditability of researches carried out in tertiary institutions in the state. In chatting the way forward, recommendations made include removing the administrative bottlenecks, discountenancing 'pork barrel' approach, shunning unethical behavior, eradication of favoritism and nepotism, adopting internal and external audit capacity and control.