

POSTGRDUATE RESEARCH ENDEAVOURS IN COVENANT UNIVERSITY: AN ASSESSMENT FROM A SUPERVISOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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The Gap in Knowledge

- The choice of a topic and the problem of identifying the gap in knowledge.
- The gap in knowledge is identified through extensive and critical review of relevant current literature.

Areas of Specialisation

- Areas of specialisation and topics should not be imposed on students.

Referencing

- Incomplete list of references/inconsistency in referencing style/correctness in use: Harvard, Chicago and APA.

Language problem

- Language problem/incoherent thoughts: the need for full-time professional editors in School of Postgraduate Studies (2 – one for CST/CoE, one for CBSS/CLDS. Proper editing must be done before theses and dissertations are uploaded on the web or placed on shelves in the Library.

Thorough supervision

- Supervisors must supervise thoroughly/students must give attention to details and be consistent; tables, graphs, figures and plates must be labeled appropriately. Ola-David of Economics was one of the students that paid attention to details in her thesis.

Exposing the work

- There is need to expose the work to as many people as possible, especially experts in the area of study.

Refusal to correct obvious lapses

- Refusal to correct obvious lapses by some students. A student should be able to convince his/her supervisor where there are disagreements

May/June pressure

- May/June pressure on supervisors, assessors and examiners by candidates who are desperate to graduate in June

Publishing

- Publishing from postgraduate works: CPCI conferences, Thomson Reuters and Scopus indexed journals; the need to carry supervisors along, let supervisors see, read and make inputs to what is to be published to improve the quality. This is particularly important where the names of the supervisors are to be included as authors.