

## ABSTRACT

This study is performed to identify satisfaction and degree completion of postgraduate students and to propose the SDC framework for identifying satisfaction and degree completion of Postgraduate students. This study identifies enrolment and degree completion rate and postgraduate students' characteristics with satisfying factors in three public universities at Jamshoro education city.

Enrolments and degree completion rates of Postgraduate Master students of 2008 academic session are compared. Results show that there is differences in enrolment and degree completion. As 417 students were enrolled and total of 60(14%) students have completed their Postgraduate Master degrees. In addition 6% degree completion in University of Sindh, 22% degree completion in Mehran University of Engineering & Technology and 8% degree completion in the Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences has been identified.

The variations in postgraduate students between demographical characteristics like gender, age, employment, financial resources and variation between research requirements like lab based, field based and library is identified.

Postgraduate students' characteristics in three universities related to financial resources, employment status, and working organization show differences with each others towards degree completion.

Experiences of selected Postgraduate Master degree students of session 2008 are collected by using both qualitative (through 12 interviews) and quantitative (131 survey questionnaire) research techniques. The results were achieved through descriptive analysis and chi-square test.

The 27 factors, identified by interviews & literature review were organized under three clusters 1.University Policies and Facilities, 2.University Infrastructure and 3.Role of Supervisor. The survey analysis revealed that all factors are directly related to postgraduate students' satisfaction and completion of their degrees. Most satisfying factors identified in all postgraduate students are: "Reasonable price (fees)", "University Provides Experienced Supervisor", "Regular and Effective Meetings with

Supervisor”, “Supervisor Guides to Find Literature and Research Methodologies”, “Supervisor Helps to Make Co-ordination Between Industries and other Required Organizations” and “Supervisor Monitor Research work from Start to End”.

Experiences of students related to “modern facilitated classrooms”, “quick and scheduled assessment process”, “institute provide access to all key equipment and research material”, “institute/department library contains all required books/articles”, “advancement of knowledge through language courses”, “seminars and workshops”, “book shop, printing facility with easy access at reasonable cost”, and “standard accommodation at reasonable cost” have been observed at less satisfaction level.

Research concludes that there is strong relationship of postgraduate students’ characteristics with degree completion. Less degree completion rate and less satisfaction were observed due to weak factors universities policies and low level of infrastructure. In addition, differences between degree completion and postgraduate students’ satisfaction have also identified within three different universities at Jamshoro education city.

So it can be said on basis of above results the **postgraduate students’ characteristics** and **less postgraduate students’ satisfaction** are problems which hinders completion of postgraduate degrees in the higher education institutions at appropriate time.