

The Relationship between Hostel Accommodation and Managerial Effectiveness in Federal Universities in Northwest Zone, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explores the relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in federal universities in Northwest Nigeria. The objectives of the study were to assess the extent of management of hostel accommodation and to find out the level of managerial effectiveness in federal universities in North West, Nigeria among others. The research design was a descriptive survey of correlational type. The population of the study consisted of 4,736 individuals, including 20 management staff, 25 non-academic staff, and 4,691 students. A total sample of 357 was obtained using on research advisor's table. Two instruments were used for the study titled: Management of School Hostel Accommodation Rating Scale (MSHARS) and Managerial Effectiveness Questionnaire. (MEQ). A reliability index of 0.75 and 0.76 were obtained through test-retest. For data collection, questionnaire was used. The data was analyzed using percentages to answer research questions while PPMC was used to test hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. The study found out among others that there was low extent of management of hostel accommodation in Federal Universities of North West Nigeria. The study recommended among others that there is need for improvement from the university management to provide adequate hostel accommodation and modern facilities to cater for students' need.

Keywords: Hostel Accommodation, University Management, Managerial Effectiveness.

Introduction

The global demand for higher education necessitates for continue infrastructures development. Universities cannot perfume their operations effectively without adequate facilities. In all cases, basic facilities and infrastructure are provided through contracts awards. Since the award of contract is guided by due process and other ethical considerations. University management has the moral obligation and professional duty to ensure that the complex process involved in contract awards is efficiently managed to guarantee the quality of the provided facilities.

Educational facilities such as student hostels in particular are very important towards meeting towards meeting students' need for a conducive environment where they can rest and sleep after undergoing rigorous academic and other activities. Apart from a suitable resting place, hostels provide common rooms where students can relax during their free time and socialize with their mates, as well as reduce stress. Hostels cater for the physical and psychological need of students as they provide clean toilets where students can relieve themselves and clean bathrooms where they can take baths and groom themselves for uptimacy bodily hygiene. Hostels provide spaces for laundry and dry cleaning of student's clothes. In some cases, special places are designated where students can cook with optimum safety. According to Onyegini (2014), provision of hostels saves students from staying off campus where they have to cope with noisy neighbourhood could also spend a lot to transport themselves to school on daily basis. The worst affected are the disabled students, foreign students, and new student from different parts of the country who are coming to the township of the university for the very first time and have no relations where they can stay.

The provision of adequate hostels accommodation usually goes a long way in protecting students from the various off campus, rentage. Onyegiri (2014) noted that inadequate hostel facilities have forced many students to live off-campus where they are exposed to all kinds of unsuitable environment apart from additional cost of transportation to school.

Managerial effectiveness in university system refers to the ability of management body to ensure that work is completed efficiently and on time and that both the employee and organization progress. University management is responsible for planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating, reporting, and budgeting foe attempting of organizational objectives are achieved. Managerial functions are essential in project design, execution, monitoring, and evaluation among others. An effective and efficient management in an organization will lead to provision of required infrastructures, and all things being equal which in turn will result in creating a conducive learning environment for both staff and students. It's also the role of university management to organize for contract bidding and ensure that the best bidder is selected for the execution of projects. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the management to ensure that contracts are properly executed in line with the approved specifications.

Statement of the Problem

Hostel accommodation is a crucial aspect of the tertiary education experience, providing a safe and conducive environment for students to live and study. However, in many institutions, particular in developing countries, the availability and quality of hostel accommodation are often inadequate to meet the growing demand from students. This can lead to a range of problems, including, Inadequate number of hostels with limited bed space, Dilapidated toilets bathroom and

urinals, Inadequate sewage and refuse disposal, Damage beds, mattresses and furniture in common rooms, Inadequate security personnel always in the hostel. The problem of this study is to find the relationship between hostel accommodation and Managerial Effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West Nigeria.

Objectives of the study

1. To assess extent of management of hostel accommodation in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.
2. To assess the level of managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.
3. To assess the relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.

Research Questions

This study is guided by the following research question:

1. What is the extent of management of hostel accommodation in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.
2. What is the level of managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria
3. What is the relationship between Management of hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.

Based on the research questions and objectives of the study, the following hypothesis was formulated:

Research Hypothesis

H₀₁ There is no significant relationship between Management of hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in federal universities in Northwest, Nigeria.

Theoretical Framework

This paper is based on the Systems Theory. According to Nwankwo in Mgbodile, (2014), a system Theory, which was profound by Ludwig Von Bertalanffy view a system as a unit with series of interconnected and interdependent parts, such that the interplay of any part affects the whole. A system is therefore a structure with interdependent parts. The hierarchical and lateral structure in a system and their associated interactions and transformations are geared towards achieving the goal and purpose. A University is a social system that has structure and process. The administration of a University as a system involves management of such areas as curriculum, staff personnel, student personnel, funds, school plant, and school community relations.

This theory is related to this study because University students, as well as the facilities, form part and parcel of the University education as a system. It is known that any aching part of the system will jeopardize the efficient working of the whole system. When the provision, of social amenities and infrastructure facilities are inadequate and low quality, it will dampen the morale of students and generate tension. This will of course affects their input in their studies and equally affect what they acquire in terms of knowledge, skills and values. On a final note, the central idea of the theory is that when one part of a system is neglected, challenges are bound to occur. In this case, students are bound to face many challenges in a University when social infrastructures and instructional components are neglected.

Review of Related Empirical Studies

In order to establish the uniqueness of this study, two empirical studies were reviewed against each of the variables of investigation. Enomah (2019) who conducted a research on influence of hostel accommodation on students' academic performance in Nigerian universities. The study used survey research design. The population of the study consists of 2117. The study selected 333 from a total of 2117 participants. The study used structured questionnaire to elicit information from the participants. Inferential statistics was used to test hypotheses. Based on the analysis the study revealed that shortage of hostels (accommodation) significantly affected students' academic performance in Nigerian universities. The study also revealed that most of times students miss some of their academic activities in search of accommodation. The study recommends that authorities of Nigerian universities need to construct more hostels that can accommodate large number of students. Lack of standard accommodation resulted to poor academic performance of students in tertiary institutional. The study is related with current study in the sense both deals with hostel accommodation, and they differ in sample size and geographical location

Olurunsola and Belo (2018) their study examined administrative challenges and managerial effectiveness in Ogun State private universities. The study adopted descriptive survey research design. The study population was 13,123 staff in the private universities from which a sample of 900 staff was drawn from 16 privates own universities using simple random and proportionate random sampling techniques. The outcome revealed that a significant relationship exists between administrative challenges and managerial effectiveness as well as well-equipped school libraries. The study also revealed that finance is the best predictor of managerial effectiveness, while physical facilities are the least predictive factor. The above study and current study shares similarities as both focuses on managerial effectiveness but differs in scope and other additional variables under study such as communication and controlling.

Methodology

The research design adopted for this study is descriptive survey of correlational type. The population of the study comprised of all the Federal Universities in North-West Zone Nigeria, which consist of their management staff made up of Deans of students, Registrars, Directors physical planning and Directors Procurement Unit. Non-academic staff include Deans of students Affairs, Matrons, Hall Administrators and Security staff. Students comprised of male and female students of all level occupying the hostels. There are eight federal universities within the seven states of North-Western Nigeria, but only five were used for study as depicted in the table.

Population of the study

Table 1: Population of the Study

SN	Universities	Managemen t staff	Non academi c staff	Student s	Total
1.	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.	4	5	1465	8474
2.	Bayaro University Kano	4	5	1344	1353
3.	Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto	4	5	1152	1861
4.	Federal University Gusau	4	5	358	367
5.	Federal University B/Kebbi	4	5	372	381
	Total	20	25	4691	4736

Source: Establishment Units of the Universities (2023)

In this study multistage sampling procedure was used to determine sample of the study. The researcher used purposive sampling technique to select five states from seven states that made up of North-West States, Nigeria with total population of (4,736). There are eight federal universities within the seven states of North-Western Nigeria among which the researcher selected five universities, these were Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, Federal University Birnin Kebbi, Federal University Zamfara, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria and Bayero University Kano.

Sample of the study

Table 2: Sample of the Study

SN	Universities	Managemen t staff	Non academi c staff	Students	Total
1.	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.	4	5	62	71
2.	Bayaro University Kano	4	5	63	72
3.	Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto	4	5	63	72
4.	Federal University Gusau	4	5	62	71
5.	Federal University B/Kebbi	4	5	62	71
	Total	20	25	312	357

Source: Establishment Units of the Universities (2023)

The sample size of 357 participants were selected from 4,736 population of staff and students based on the Research Advisors (2006) table for determining sample size. Management staff and nonacademic staff were selected purposively because of their small number. The researcher used proportionate and simple random sampling techniques to select students from each university.

Two set of questionnaires were used to collect data for the study. The first instrument was a researcher design rating scale titled: “Management of School Hostel Accommodation Rating Scale” (MSHARS) with 27 items. This instrument request participants to response to a five-point rating scale on each item. 5.0 (VHE)= Very High Extent. 4.0 (HE)= High Extent. 3.0 (ME)= Moderate Extent. 2.0 (LE)= Low Extent. 1.0 (VLE)= Very Low Extent.

The second instrument was a self-design questionnaire titled self-design questionnaires titled: “Managerial Effectiveness Questionnaire” (MEQ). The instrument was structured in such a

way that it requested the participants to rate each item from the given five-point rating scales. 5.0 (VHE)= Very High Level, 4.0(HE)= High Level, 3.0 (ME)= Moderate Level, 2.0 (LE)= Low Level, 1.0 (VLE)= Very Low Level. The cut off point for acceptance was 3.0.

The first instrument titled: Management of School Hostel Accommodation Rating Scale” (MSHARS) which has 27 items was submitted to the individual of expert in the Faculty of Education and Extension Services, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, to make critical observation regarding the contents and its suitability as an instrument for the collection of data. After going through, some questions were re-cast and restructured to render the instruments valid.

The second instrument was researcher design questionnaire title: Managerial Effectiveness Questionnaire (MEQ) which has 23 items. The questionnaire was submitted to the individual expert in Educational Management, from Faculty of Education and Extension Services, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, to make critical observation regarding the contents and its suitability as an instrument for the collection of data. After the vetting, comments and observations were made to render the instrument valid.

For the first instrument titled: Management of School Hostel Accommodation Rating Scale, Test re-test method of reliability was applied with an interval of four weeks in order to establish reliability of the instrument. The scores of the two tests were computed using Pearson Product Moment Correlation coefficient at 0.05 level of significance and a reliability index of 0.75 Management of School Hostel Accommodation Rating Scale” (MSHARS). The reliability of the second instrument, Managerial Effectiveness Questionnaire (MEQ), was established by the researcher as 0.76.

The researcher used trained research assistants to aid effective distribution and retrieval of the instrument. The researcher used descriptive statistics of frequencies, percentages of participants rating of each item was used to determine extent of management of hostel accommodation and level of managerial effectiveness. The Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC) at 0.05 level of significance. The analysis was conducted using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Software.

Results

Two research questions were answered, and one hypothesis was tested.

RQ1: What is the extent of management of school hostel accommodation in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria?

The research question was answered and is presented in Table 3

Table 3: Extent of Management of School Hostel Accommodation in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria

S/N	Item Statement	f	%	Rating	Extent	Decision
1	University authority provides considerable number of decent accommodations for students'	214	60%	2.0	LE	Not Satisfactory
2	There is cross ventilation in my hostel and therefore give enough room for fresh breeze	214	60%	2.0	LE	Not Satisfactory
3	There are enough toilet facilities with modern equipment in my hostel	214	60%	2.0	LE	Not Satisfactory
4	There is enough space in my hostel and therefore sizeable number of students allocated per room to avoid over crowding	214	60%	2.0	LE	Not Satisfactory
5	My school is well constructed with standard building materials in accordance with Nigerian building code of conduct which save them from frequent collapse	214	60%	4.0	ME	Satisfactory
6	My school hostels' have security alert, should there be a security problem	250	70%	1.0	VLE	Not Satisfactory
Average (Mean)		220	58%	2.0	LE	Not Satisfactory

Cutoff mean = 3.0

Key:

- 5.0 (VHE)= Very High Extent
- 4.0 (HE)= High Extent
- 3.0 (ME)= Moderate Extent
- 2.0 (LE)= Low Extent
- 1.0 (VLE)= Very Low Extent

Analysis of data in table 3 reveals that item 1,2,3,4 had a low-level extent while item 5 had moderate extent and 6 had a very low extent. Consequently, the items are not accepted as satisfactory in the extent of management of school hostel accommodation in the area of study because of an overall low Mean of 2.0 and a rating of 58% indicated in the table. It is thus concluded that the extent of management of school hostel accommodation in Federal Universities in the area of study is not satisfactory.

RQ2: What is the level of managerial effectiveness in Universities in North West, Nigeria?
The research questions was answered and presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Level of Managerial Effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria

S/N	Item Statement	f	%	Rating	Level	Decision
1	University Management make set goals for providing by accommodation	179	50%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory
2	Management has documented regulations for contractors to abide with	179	50%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory
3	Management clearly start the agreements and terms of reference for contractors	179	50%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory
4	Management ensures that contractors are performing in line with specificities	179	50%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory
5	Management ensures that operators of contractors are monitored and supervised by committee	179	50%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory
6	Management makes budgetary allocation and promptly releases funds to contractors	179	70%	2.0	VLE	Not Satisfactory
7.	Management audits funds released to ensure accountability and transparency	179	50%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory
8.	University management ensures that only reputable contractors are given the job	249	70%	1.0	VLL	Not satisfactory
Average (Mean)		192	53%	3.0	ML	Satisfactory

Cutoff mean = 3.0

Key: 357

- 5.0 (VHE)= Very High Level
- 4.0 (HE)= High Level
- 3.0 (ME)= Moderate Level
- 2.0 (LE)= Low Level
- 1.0 (VLE)= Very Low level

Analysis of data in table 4 reveals that item 1,2,3,4 ,5and 7, had a moderate level while item 6 had low level and lastly 8 had very low level. Information in the table 4 reveals that the respondents indicated affirmation that there is moderate level of managerial effectiveness. Notwithstanding, the items are accepted as satisfactory in the level of managerial effectiveness in the area of study because of an overall Mean of 3.0 and a rating of 53% indicated in the table. It is thus concluded that the level managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in the area of study is satisfactory.

Hypothesis Testing

One Hypothesis was tested in Table 5 below.

Hypothesis One

H₀₁ There is no significant relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in federal universities in North West, Nigeria.

This hypothesis was tested by subjecting the hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness scores to a Pearson *r*-test analysis as shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Relationship between Hostel Accommodation and Managerial Effectiveness

Variables	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	<i>r</i> -Cal	<i>p</i> -Value	Decision
Hostel Accommodation	89	15.07	1.277	-.457	.000	H ₀ Rejected
Managerial Effectiveness	178	72.29	4.944			

From the result of table 4, hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness though negatively related were significant, $r(265) = -.457, p < .05$. This indicates significant relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness because the *p*-value is less than the .05 level of significance. Therefore, H₀₁ which states that there is no significant relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in federal universities in North West, Nigeria was rejected.

Summary of Major Findings

1. There is low extent of management of hostel accommodation in federal universities in North West, Nigeria
2. The level of managerial effectiveness was at moderate extent in federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.
3. The last findings shows that there was significant positive relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria.

Discussion of Findings

The first finding of the study indicates that there is low extent of hostel accommodation management in federal universities in North West, Nigeria and this was as a results of inadequate accommodation, that many students who deserves to stay in hostel cannot get the accommodation because of the limited number of bed space allocated, there was no cross ventilation in hostel due to overcrowding of students, toilets are not in good condition, not equipped with modern toilet facilities, inadequate sewage and refuse disposal, furniture's, beds and matrasses are damaged, lack of cushions and televisions in common room, absence of security personal and security alert at all time in the hostel The finding was in line with Enomah (2019) whose study shows that the respondents unanimously agree that availability of facilities like hostel accommodation in universities education influence that academic performance of undergraduate students of Federal Universities in South-South Zone, Nigeria which is the in line with item 5 in table 3 my school is

well constructed with standard building materials in accordance with Nigerian building code of conduct which save them from frequent collapse with 60% and mean of 4.0.

The second finding indicates that there is moderate level of managerial effectiveness in federal Universities in North West, Nigeria. Which means that, there is need for management to improve on its activities there by documenting and implementing regulations to guide contractors because sometimes the contractors do but abide by the specification mostly in terms of quality of materials needed in the construction, the supervisory committee should be made up of experts in the field who are capable of doing the right thing at the right time.. The study contradicts with Olurunsola and Belo (2018) who found that there was very low level of managerial effectiveness in determined the effect of managerial effectiveness and school facilities.

The last findings shows that there was significant positive relationship between hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities in North West, Nigeria and this was based on the fact that when management create, plan, direct, coordinate, control and supervised its activities in dealing with construction of quality and adequate hostel accommodation it will lead positive relationship. The finding was in line with Akinfolarin, (2017) whose results shows that there is positive relationship between managerial effectiveness for effective management of school infrastructures in universities in Anambra State.

Conclusion

The study aim is to assess the quality of hostel accommodation and managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities of North West Nigeria. Findings from the study shown that hostel accommodation is negatively related to Managerial effectiveness in Federal Universities of North West Nigeria and university management within its capacity was able not to provide relatively decent accommodations despite explosion in students' population. This is because large numbers of students are residing in university campus, therefore, sizeable number of students are allocated to avoid overcrowding.

Recommendations

On the basis of the findings and conclusion drawn from this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. There is need for university management to improve hostels by providing more facilities and adequately maintenance to cater for students' needs.
2. There is need to improve on management of hostel accommodation by visual of proper planning, staffing and supervision in hostel to improve efficiency
3. Management should continue to give priority towards ensuring that student hostel are always conducive to stay comfortable in regarding their academic activities.

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