

NWU BUSINESS SCHOOL
MINUTES OF SCIENTIFIC MEETING:
GENERAL MANAGEMENT SECTOR

DATE : **8 May 2020**
TIME : **11:00**

1. OPENING

1.1 Welcome and Personalia

1.2 Present:

- Prof Ronnie Lotriet
- Prof Gisele Mah
- Mr Johan Coetzee
- Prof Stephan van der Merwe
- Prof Christo Bisschoff
- Prof Hein Prinsloo
- Dr Kaizer Ndlovu
- Dr Johan Jordaan
- Dr Nelda Mouton
- Dr Joseph Lekunze
- Christie Munro

1.3 Apologies: Prof Anet Smit

1.4 General:

It is compulsory for supervisors that submit student proposals to attend the Scientific Committee meetings.

2. Matters arising from previous Scientific meeting on 24 April 2020:

(Follow up on approved ethic applications)

Approved ethics applications with corrections must be sent through to be signed off by the Chair: Prof Ronnie Lotriet. The close of submission date is on 20 May 2020 to Dalene Vorster for Ethics meeting on 29 May 2020.

3. New applications

3.1 L.E. Qoma 16198220 (MBA): Dr. Nelda Mouton	An evaluation of technology acceptance of baby boomers towards digital banking in Mafikeng
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1. Amend title to contain a verb.
2. Referred code 3.
3. Theory not based on any scientific/established technology acceptance model - also basically 2 and then 4 more sources constitutes the theory - I do not think this is a sound literature base for study design.
4. Therefore, the questionnaire may not be addressing specific issues already proven in technology acceptance.
5. Add H0 to your hypothesis (No - There is no relationship between the variables (but then what are the variables - H1,2,3 not based on theory foundation as there is no model) - see comment 7 as alternative.
6. Proposal "not more than 15 questions" - in questionnaire there are 30.
7. I firmly believe that more should be done with the data - e.g. EFA, PCA, correlations between the variables (but the question is back to comment 1 - what are the variables and where do they come from - how will the student measure the "adoption of digital banking" - as just one concept?
8. Need to check reliability of the data.
9. Well if they do not want to go the established technology acceptance way (see comment 1) - then I would suggest identify your own acceptance criteria by doing an Exploratory factor analysis, extract X number of factors and then test the age, etc against these factors (your own ones).
10. What about testing if the three branches are similar - examiners could easily reason that behaviour differ between the banking clients - the first stats would be to confirm that the 3 groups are similar and can be combined.
11. The hypothesis would then look something like (refine):
12. Ho: There are no relationships between the identified factors and the demographic variables.
H1: There is a negative relationship between age and the identified factors of adoption of digital banking.
H2: There is a positive relationship between the demarcation and identified factors of adoption of digital banking.
H3: There is a relationship between occupation level and identified factors of adoption of digital banking.

3.2 R Moetsi 20383495 (MBA): Prof Stephan van der Merwe	Exploring the unique challenges facing women entrepreneurs in the Gauteng province
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1. Accepted with code 1.
2. Email sent to Chairperson to sign off documents.

3.3 SP Maduane 21249954 (MBA): Prof Stephan van der Merwe	Exploring the challenges of rural women farmers in selected provinces in South Africa
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1. Accepted with code 2.
2. Amend title.

3.4 Ms C Roodt 23765682(MBA): Prof Stephan van der Merwe	A proposed business plan for an out-of-home media platform business in Gauteng province
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1. Accepted with code 2.
2. Amend title – take out South Africa.
3. No risk.
4. No people involved.

3.5 Mr KN Kupa 27193365 (MBA): Prof Stephan van der Merwe	Developing a management framework for sustainable retail SMMEs in Limpopo province
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1. Approved with code 1.

3.5 PG Nkhuoa 33264686 (MBA): Dr K Ndlovu	OPTIMIZING THE WHITE MAIZE PRIZE IN THE MARCH TO JULY SEASON
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1. Approved with code 2.
2. Amend title.
3. Opening sentence is a good idea – more accurately take the following into consideration: The agricultural sector is the backbone of the South African economy. (Get facts straight here) but show in graph or whatever the importance of agriculture to GDP of SA in relation to other industries.

4. SAFEX 5 months - but March-July = 4 months?
5. Cannot use 15-20-year-old sources in a fluent study such as pricing (Hull 2002).
6. Add something like 2019/2020 projections after figure 1 to your data collection.
7. "All the quantitative data is secondary data freely available on the Internet and other databases. As such no respondents are involved and no letter of consent is required. This also eliminates the need for a questionnaire." Suggestion from Christo Bisschoff to put that in big bold letters for the ethic committee to clearly see that these documents are not required.

3.7 K Tuabeng 23903473 (MBA) Dr Kaizer Ndlovu	Effectiveness of Student Online Registration and Admission System at North-West University
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1. Approved with code 2.
2. Amend title – debate over using North-West University study – gatekeeper of North-West University will approve the study – consent letter from company will confirm.
3. Research methodology should be better explained in terms of who will participate (per faculty).
4. Access to target population should be stipulated.
5. Just clarify HOW the 370 (401) students will be approached. If by email who will administer the mailing list?
6. Random stratified sampling per faculty?
7. Clarify if these are full-time, part-time or both groups?

3.8 T Nonxuba 31048838 (MBA) Dr Kaizer Ndlovu	Blockchain enabled supply chain in the retail industry
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1. Approved with code 2.
2. Amend title.
3. Reformulate the research questions - poorly language structured as a result difficult to understand well. Refer this part to Dr Johan Jordaan for further input on changing to qualitative research.
4. Justify gender issue. If you are not going to compare male vs female views, then rather delete or state that you are going to and then say why this is important in the study.
5. Letter of consent?
6. 90 respondents from 45 organizations - so all will respond? Not feasible.
7. How will this data be collected - distribute questionnaire how, and by whom? Practicalities needed here.

3.9 E Oosthuizen 20396597 (MBA) Prof Ronnie Lotriet	Investigating the agricultural sector as a youth employment prospect in the North West Province
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1. Approved with code 2.
2. Consent form: Take out gender.
3. Official definition. Just state why deviation from state's 14-35 youth definition to 15-25?
4. Check consent form - ethics committee will review, over gender question - there should be something in the consent form stating that the data will be used for comparative analysis - ask Stephan about this.
5. Parental consent form attached for under aged participants.
6. Check file layout - opened with error on "Style 1".

3.10 JF Fernando (33477469) (MBA) Prof Ronnie Lotriet	Investigating strategic management challenges of a defence force service provider
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1. Approved with code 2.
2. SCERF form. Contradiction with question 3 and 4.
3. All documents submitted.

3.11 BTT Diale (16517288) (MBA) Prof Ravi Ravinder	Identifying the factors influencing the graduate unemployment rate of national youth service
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1. Second submission to Scientific committee.
2. Chairperson can sign off.
3. Prof Ravi Ravinder submitted the amendments to Prof Ronnie Lotriet per email to sign off.

3.12 MB Motloung 33328846 (MBA) Prof Stephan van der Merwe	Exploring the factors contributing to the success of women entrepreneurs in SMMEs in the North-West province
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1. Accepted with code 1
2. Research accepted
3. Statistics is for 2011

General:

Grammarly should be downloaded by student and / or supervisors and used for all research documents.

C Lloyd was submitted 7 May 2020 without motivation for late submission. Prof Ronnie Lotriet and Prof Christo Bisschoff will make sure it is submitted for May ethics.

Templates: The Business School template is used for guidelines of the content; chapter 1 can be done on the general template.

Tense should be perfect future tense for proposal and thereafter past tense.

Closing:

Meeting adjourned.

Prof Ronnie Lotriet

Prof Christoff Botha