RATIONALE AND VALIDITY OF FIELD SELECTION PROCEDURE IN TECHNICAL AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION

by

S.C. Wickramasinghe

A dissertation submitted in a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

M. Phil.

Department of Mathematics

51 "02" 62.001.37

Faculty of Engineering

TH

University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka

74540

January 2002

University of Moratuva

DECLARATION

I hereby certify that the work done in this Dissertation is a result of my own effort where, reference is made to the work of authors and this is acknowledged in the text. This Dissertation has not been submitted for another degree.

UOM Verified Signature

S.C. Wickramasinghe

Name of the Candidate

Signature



To the best of my knowledge the above particulars are correct.

Prof. D.S. Wijeyesekera

Prof. G.T.F. de Silva

Prof. K.R.M.T. Karunaratne

Names of the Supervisors

UOM Verified Signature

UOM Verified Signature

UOM Verified Signature

Signatures



<u>Contents</u>	Page No.
Acknowledgements	i
Abbreviations	ii
Objectives:	iii
Scope:	iii
Abstract	iv
CHAPTER 1	1
Introduction	1
CHAPTER 2	5
History of Engineering Education	5
CHAPTER 3	9
Development of Engineering Education at University of Peradeniya	9
CHAPTER 4	
Developments at the University of Moratuwa	10
CHAPTER 5	19
Selections for Engineering	19
Field Selection at the Faculty of Engineering of Peradeniya University	
Development of N.D.T. selection procedure	20
CHAPTER 6	25
Problems and Constraints	25
CHAPTER 7	27
Data Collection	27
Calculations and Results	28
Graphical Evidence	31
Analysis	33
CHAPTER 8	37
Solution to the Problem	37
Conclusions	40
Justification	41
CHAPTER 9	43
Field selection Methodology for B.Sc and Model	43
Field selection Methodology for N.D.T. and Model	48
References	50
Anneyure	50



Acknowledgements

My sincere gratitude goes to

- All Vice-Chancellors and Deans from 1988 onwards
- The Supervisors for their help and guidance
- Dr.H.C. Kariyawasam for introducing me to computing
- Mr.A.A.D.D.Saparamadu and the staff under him
- Late Prof. Hubert Silva, my unforgettable friend
- Mr.Brian and Dr.(Mrs) Kathleen Trustrum
- S.A.Rs of Examination branch and staff
- Mrs.S.Jayasuriya of I.E.S.L.
- Mr.H.A.S.Chandrakumar of T.T.I Katunayake
- Training Engineers of Peradeniya and Open Universities
- Head and all other members of Mathematics department
- Nirosh de Silva, Ramesh, Suminda and Kithsiri
- My wife Sunila and brother Dalmie
- All others who helped me along and gave me encouragement

THANK YOU

Abbreviations

B.Sc. : Bachelor of Science

B.Tech : Bachelor of Technology

C.C.T : Ceylon College of Technology

Dip.Tech : Diploma in Technology

G.C.E. : General Certificate in Education

-"A/L" : Advanced level -"O/L" : Ordinary level

H.N.D.E. : Higher National Diploma in Engineering

I.E.S.L : Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka.

I.I.E.S.L : Institute of Incorporate Engineers Sri Lanka

I.P.T. : Institute of Practical Technology

N.A.I.T.A. : National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority

N.D.E.S. : National Diploma in Engineering Science

N.C..T. : National Certificate in Technology

N.D.T. : National Diploma in Technology

O.U.S.L. : Open University of Sri Lanka

S.L.I.A.T.E. : Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technical Education

U.G.C. : University Grants Commission

Topic: Rationale and Validity of Field Selection Procedure in Technical

and Engineering Education.

Objectives:

1

1. Identify the courses leading to degree and diploma programmes in Engineering

Education.

2. Collect the input and output data of these programmes for a number of years.

3. Analyse the data with a view to identify the efficiency of these programmes.

4. Formulate method and procedures of selection to improve efficiency and reduce

wastage.

Scope:

This study in based on the experience gained in developing a selection and streaming

procedure for National diploma in Technology students at University of Moratuwa, over a

period of twelve years. It is expected to cover the following programmes:

> Engineering degree at University of Peradeniya.

> Part I, Part II / Charter at Institute of Engineers.

> Engineering degree at University of Moratuwa.

National Diploma in Technology at University of Moratuwa.

> National Diploma in Engineering Science from NAITA.

➤ Higher National Diploma in Engineering from Ministry of Higher Education.

➤ Bachelor of Technology at Open University of Sri Lanka.

Diploma in Technology at Open University of Sri Lanka.

iii

Abstract

- > Selection of fields in graduate and technician courses in engineering is a problem, specially found in Sri Lanka
- > There is probably no research work reported on issues and strategies to overcome this problem
- > Issues of field selection in Sri Lanka for engineering courses of degree and technician levels are discussed in this thesis
- > Statistical data available and collected for the work are analysed and evaluated
- > Recommendations are made for modalities of field selection for category mentioned

The entry criteria, methods used and performance will be studied by relating the input and output data. Analysis will be done taking into account the restrictions imposed by delays in results, district quota etc. and their effect on the individuals and society as a whole.

Personality factors of the students such as home background, financial problems and temperament have not been considered. In addition, the standard of each institution, the quality of teaching, training and methods of evaluation were not taken into account. Even though these factors bear an effect on the outcome, they are not easily measurable in quantitative terms and as such they have been left out.