



Moving from College to University: A study on the transitional experiences of Undergraduate Students

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Abstract- Transitions are characterized with psychological and social cost. The overarching objective of this study was to compare the experiences of undergraduate students in educational transition from college to university. Meanwhile, this study also explored the differences between undergraduate students regarding gender and department wise in their educational transitional experiences regarding seven indicators during their first semester fall 2017 at University of Education, Campus, Dera Ghazi Khan. Three objectives and further nine research questions were formulated. The current study was delimited to only Science departments of University of Education, Campus, Dera Ghazi Khan the population of the study was consisted of all the 555 (409 male and 146 female) students of six Science departments who joined their first Semester in 2017. From overall population, 70% male (194) and 30% (84) female were selected through stratified sampling technique. Five point Likert scale questionnaire was adapted with the help of literature review for the collection of data from selected sample. Furthermore, the research tool was validated with the help of literature review and researcher then checked its reliability from pilot testing; the value of Cronbach alpha was found 0.81. From statistical package of social software V. 20 was used to run t-test, mean, standard deviation and other relevant tests were applied to analysis the data. It is concluded that female student faced most difficulties in educational transitional process as regard to integration to university, academic issue, induction to discipline, most difficult challenges and in overall transitional process. On the other hand male student (of University of Education, Campus Dera Ghazi Khan) also faced difficulties in educational transitional process regarding orientation program and difference between college and university. From results, it was concluded that female students faced most difficulties in educational transitional process from college to university as compared to male students. It is recommended that Orientation session must be organized for more inclusive and efficient that every single student who enrolled would get better adjustment in university. It is also recommended that the higher authorities of University must take proper steps to minimize the gap between these two educational systems with the help of students counselling and guidance program.

Key Words: Educational Transition, Undergraduate Students, University Education

I. INTRODUCTION

Every time an easy transition from university education to higher education increases students' chances of success because they feel comfortable and relaxed in their studies, they succeed in their lives and make full decisions (Cook and Lowe 2003; Rienties et al. 2012). Higher education or university education begins after the completion of higher or university secondary education.

Higher education always makes the child creative with fill in with confidence since this education is full of research and learning by doing and instruction knowledge and social activities. University education begins with a bachelor's level and eligibility criteria are university or college education. Universities also offer postgraduate, graduate, or PhD degrees.

When a student enters a university after completing his college studies, he, as a newcomer in university education, faces many problems that may become difficulties or obstacles in order to complete the certificate with good grades. In the college or school, the student's level of education and standard play a vital role in developing the educational qualities of the transitional phase.

The transition from one stage of education to another can be classified as social, private, environmental and educational. All these difficulties are borne by students in the first semester of university education. If a student succeeds in controlling himself in university education, his chances of success may also increase. So a good transition always leads to a good grade

The transition can be defined as a final path shaded by an individual from household to Play group, play group to kindergarten, and basic grades to high school and high school to high school. The main arguments for making effective change are homework and expectations for change (Johnson 2003). When learners visit the University Primarily for their College Studies, they encounter an unexpected change rather than their educational experience and mood. The first-year college experience is enthusiastic and full of visions but sometimes frustrating and motivating. One aspect used in this learning is the "transitional experience" that represents the practice of students in the university adjusting their university education during the first semester.

Previous studies have consistently revealed that educational change affects academic achievement (Bailey and Philips 2016; Rentis et al. 2012). An abundant study determined that getting past is a university accomplishment expert (Bowles et al. 2014; McKenzie and Schweitzer 2001; Richardson et al. 2012; Robbins et al. 2004; Suhre et al. 2007). However, it is unclear whether prior achievement (i.e. GPA in secondary schools) also affected the educational change at the university. Winter and others (2011) reported that first year learners who maintained a high school grade point average in first year of complex learning have improved time supervision services from those who will GPA drops and Hurtado et al. (2007) demonstrate that learner-management services were a predictor of educational change.

Statement of the problem

The transition process in Education is very difficult for some students as they are not satisfied with the system. The main attention of this research was why these students were not satisfied with transition and how they feel difference between different phases of education. The individual faces various responsibilities and adjustments, and from that they turn out numerous difficulties as a college student in their achievements during come from college to higher education. The main problem increase when a student feel problem as newbie in university as he doesn't know about the rules and regulation. There is a need to understand students' knowledge even though they enter college from college education. The worth of the study was under as;

- i. Assessment and results of this study would surely be helpful for the management of University.
- ii. The analysis result of this research will be very useful in future during transition of student and for teacher to know about student problems and they want to explore why a student from college cannot adjust himself in new settings.
- iii. University should planned orientation program that student feel comfortable with the study.

Aims of the Research

The aims of the study were to;

- i. To see the educational phase transfer performance by students in their first semester.
- ii. To compare the gender difference in academic transition.

Research Questions of the study

The following research questions were framed on the basis of objectives;

- i. How the integration was challenging for students?
- ii. Experiences of student about orientation program?
- iii. What type of difference student feel between college and university education?
- iv. How was the experience opposite among male and female learners?

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

This investigation focused on strengthening the determinants of transfer from college education to university education. This investigation was directed to note the sympathetic shift of first semester learners on UC DJ Khan Campus. This section deals primarily with fiction and evaluation about classic change and educational transformation. Conversion is an organization that contracts with the learner's deeper presence and external behavior.

The transformation may change an individual's lifestyle from his or her view of the world, and change plays an active role in organizing their skills interactions and their role with others (Cowan, 1991).

There are also many difficulties related to the social and economic rank of the learner throughout the change period. One of them, Alfonso, Melguizo, and Kinzel (2011), inspects that transfer may lead to financial pressures among learners due to advanced fees, transportation fees, etc. Conversion is a process of improvement that includes several aspects that are similar to supervision, strategy building, and difference, and conversion is a procedure that starts with the Birth. The second, from home to school. Third, Pre-college for toddler / first rank. Fourthly, one of the free high school classes.

There are many degrees of change and each degree has its own obstacles, but the vital and differentiated stage of change that the learner handles is the change from secondary to advanced education. In upper secondary schools, learners used to sit in high school classes in college

The concepts of average awareness were shaped by Sugarman (1986). Schlossberg in (1995), Bridges (1995), Hobson (1976). The main topics behind these concepts were anxiety, family disasters, sadness and shaping a vital stage of progress in life as well as in teaching.

The main reason after this survey is to monitor the learning transition of learners from college to university. Education was devoted to the educational delinquency the student received after converting to another phase of education like university.

The main reason behind this study mission is to study the ability of beginners to perceive misconceptions upon reaching university and to appear as units (Zheng et al., 2002; Kern et al., 1998; Simpson and Nist, 2000; Kern et al., 1998). According to UpCraft, the learning transformation takes place in Barefoot and Gardner (2005) from college to the higher education level, and it receives a whole new knowledge from the semester to the university semester, the university semester to the workplace. The first year at university is actually authoritative to note how the learner will achieve in the forthcoming.

One of the main commitments of a university or higher education is the formation of a university graduate. But the obstacles created when the university main opinion is to provide slow education and get the learner used to memorize repetition. This makes the student more disadvantaged than the teacher, which is why there is a higher education institute that results in a disability (Malik, Shabbir, 2008).

Generate job positions for what specifically behaviors of the university to productive substitution in higher education. Early in the year the university is in aggressive and mysterious periods but from time to time full of diagnosis, new expectations and enthusiasm.

In a pupil life cycle to a university, university transformation plays a central duty that wants partial support among teachers, parents, supervisors, and predictors at university and undergraduate levels. The welfares that are offered to undergraduate or school learners have a load stage of more dramatic change and generate in depth openness from college to university (Barber & Olsen, 2004).

Sovic (2007), record the resulting media anxiety that threatens learners after discussion 141 transnational beginners from six environmental departments from a variety of organizations from a variety of organizations within the University of London: their linguistic knowledge, modification of English language construction, mentoring, and classroom influence, The team's struggle and decision all are ostracized in their responses from a qualitative study.

Clanchy and Ballard (1997) Change is the socialization process in the academic nation, the fax mask, and the familiar curriculum. In the most extreme circumstances, the institution's endeavors include adaptation to a newer additional climate, a community framework (Ryan, Twibell and Evans in 2000) and mutual alternatives that may also contain differences in education findings. General and guiding philosophy helps the student.

McInnis (2001) development affects all research and is particularly dangerous throughout the year. The pre-study fluctuations allow the integration of a stand-alone link with the college, and the organization of the countdown to all parts of working life (for example, educational practice, goals and their virtual and societal

requirements, and preparations) with the expert burdens and requirements of the college public sector makeup (for example, access to it Motivation, stretching skills, amount of work, exercise, preparation and arithmetic)

In this exclusive case, the paint period comes with a general period used to elect the overall result of the range of concrete engagements with additions; it contains the influences, conditions, movements and efficiency, as well as the capabilities and approach that the exclusive act represents representing the breakdown of paint in a ceremonial information. Being in the complaints business with information on different stages and in the various behaviors of the double, which is summarized from an artistic point of view that corresponds to a vision, and the stages of their basic education is essential to make the strong link to the technical rank (Nora, 1993), outside the school in the precise exercise and societal background (Krause, 2001).

III. METHOD AND PROCEDURE

Researcher used descriptive method for search and a survey was conducted to get response from the sample, researcher was personally access to the sample. Data was analyzed in SPSS 20.0 with the help different tests.t-test, Means and standard deviation was used to compare different facts.

Sample

Sample of the current study was elected through stratified sampling technique. Total population was 555 from 6 science departments of university.50% students from population were selected with the help of research advisory table. Total 194 male and 84 female were selected. The detail of sample is given in the table.

Table 1 Distribution of sample

Sr No	Department	Male	Female	Total
1	BS.IT	32	14	46
2	BS.Botany	32	14	46
3	BS.Chemistry	32	14	46
4	BS.Math	32	14	46
5	BS.Physics	32	14	46
6	BS.Zoology	34	14	48
Total		194	84	278

Instrument

Researcher get help from literature review to developed and modified questionnaire. Instrument consists of 3 main part and based upon strongly agree to strongly disagree. Through pilot testing consistency of the survey was checked and confirmed.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDING

Through mean test for classification of transition experiences was applied and this test was also used to certify gender difference. The result of current study was;

Q1. Integration of students in university.

Table 2 University integration

IU	Gender	N	M	S.D	df	Sig.	C.V
	Male	194	29.12	7.89	276	0.05	2.267

	Female	84	37.11	8.87			
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Table number 2 depicts the result of Q1. Mean score of male student in Q1 was 29.12 and means score of female was 37.11, the S.D was found 7.89 and 8.87. The calculated value was detected 2.267, research see that C.V was high against t-value. So from these results, the investigator found that most of the student face many difficulties in assimilation process in university.

Q2. Orientation program in different departments.

Table 3 Departments orientation

OP		N	M	S.D	df	Sig.	C-V
	F	84	31.45	11.09	276	0.05	2.569
	M	194	37.55	12.13			

Table no.3 shows the result of Q2. Mean score of male student in Q2 was 37.55 and means score of female was 31.45. The S.D was found 12.13 and 11.09. In this analysis researcher found C.V 2.569 and this value was higher than the t-value which was 1.962 at the level of significance at 0.05. So from these results, the examiner explored that most of the student face many problems in direction plans organized by different departments.

Q3. Variance between college and university education.

Table 4 Variance in different phase of education

VBCUS		N	M	S.Dev	Sig.	DF	C-V
	Male	194	42.95	10.98	0.05	276	2.908
	Female	84	31.95	9.78			

Table no.4 reflects the result of Q3. Mean score of male student in Q3 was 42.95 and means score of female was 31.95. The S.D was found 10.98 and 9.78. After analysis researcher found the calculated value 2.908 and this value was higher than the tabulated value at the level of significance at 0.05. So from these results, the investigator explored that most of the student find that there is a lot of difference exist in college and university education.

Overall result

Table 5 Overall Understandings

overall	G	N	M	S.Dev	df	Sig.	C-V
	Male	194	25.17	11.78	276	0.05	2.674

	Female	84	34.78	11.89			
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Table number 5 highlights the result of overall experiences of students during their transition phase from college to university education. Mean score of male student in overall transition result was 25.17 and means score of female was 34.78. The investigator found the M score of both gender through analysis, the S.D was found 11.78 and 11.89. After analysis the value after analysis was 2.578 and this value was higher against the t-value. So from these results, the investigator discovers that maximum of the students encounter with many hurdles in educational transition.

V. CONCLUSIONS

After analysis of data researcher finds out some fact about why students feel problems in education transition, while shifting from college to university their expectations are high and they feel a lot of problems because of this.

Researcher explored that most of the student encounter different problems regarding integration to university, most of student response that they felt problems during direction programs in the sense of transitional experiences from college to university. After the statistical analysis of data researcher found that maximum pupils countered complications as respects to gender differences. After analysis researcher concluded that female student in university feel many problems while male students have faced fewer problems as regards integration to university. This study clearly explored that male students in university faced many problems in transition phase such as during orientation program because university cannot organize orientation program so from that students little know about university. Male students feel a lot of difference between college education and university education because they come from annual examination system to semester system which reflects hurry in evaluation. On the other hand female students of university encounter a lot of problems as compare to male students because in our area girls are not much active and our society has not given so much freedom to girls as compare to boys. So from overall results students of dera ghazi khan encounter many problems during their transition phase.

VI. SUGGESTIONS

After the research analysis researcher gives some suggestions which are given below;

1. Orientation meeting must be sorted out in respectful way that each and every understudy who selected should show signs of improvement alteration in college.
2. Orientation meeting might be progressively comprehensive and productive.
3. Some essential rule might be given to confirmation looking for understudies about college and their principles.
4. Low work is assigned to newly enrolled student.
5. As understudy feel a lot of contrast in university and college training, so the tear between these two instructive frameworks might be limited with the assistance of appropriate directions.

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