The comparison of the academic performance of students that are staying at student residences and those who are staying in their homes

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Abstract- The primary concern of the university applicants has always been to meet the entrance requirements and be accepted at the university. Once students are accepted another burden comes into their minds. The burden of a place to stay especially for those who are staying far from the university premises. Universities accept students from all over the country and even students from other countries as long as they meet the entrance requirements. The admission department is not concerned about whether the students have accommodation or not. Likewise, the lecturers in the lecture theatre do not care whether the students are staying in their homes or students' residences. The content and the lecturing model becomes the same for all students. Despite all of this, the institutions of higher learning expect all students to perform well regardless of their living conditions. The objective of this study was to compare the performance of students that are staying in accommodations provided by the universities and those that are staying in their homes or self-provided accommodations. The purpose of this study was to reach conclusions on what are the contributing factors to good performance or poor performance of students. The study found that the type of accommodation where the student stay is a factor but the biggest factor is the personal motivation of individual students. The university provided accommodation to make all necessary studying resources available for students such as wifi and other equipment but students' commitment contributes. The study applied a secondary research methodology to access the results and statistics of students from various universities in South Africa.

Keywords: Accommodation, Students' residences, Private accommodation, Academic performance, Results.

I. INTRODUCTION

The institutions of higher learning attract students with their academic excellence but most students find it difficult to secure an apartment closer to the institutions of higher learning. Numerous meetings and seminars have been organized globally to explore how students can be assisted to access the conducive apartments. The investors and sponsors need an assurance that the students that they are sponsoring will be in an environment that will be student-friendly and encourage students to excel in their studies. Universities need to host ongoing conferences with property developers so that they will keep in touch with new developments and the continuous needs of students. The idea of staying closer to campus is an idea that every student has in mind. Universities cannot have apartments that can accommodate every student in South Africa(Carlson, Fosmire, Miller and Nelson, 2011: 630).

This study intends to show the differences in the academic performance of students that are staying at the students' residences and those who are staying at their homes or renting in private accommodations. This study needs to determine the contribution of the departments of students housing in universities in students' success (ONCLIN, 2014: 02). Students' accommodation is one of the essential components of tertiary institutions in the world. Most institutions attract more students from different areas if there are more accommodations available for students. The availability of the students' accommodation is an important factor that enhances tertiary students' living and learning. Tertiary institutions need to provide decent

accommodation for students so that students can make the most of their educational opportunities(Zotorvie, 2017: 291). Access to students' accommodation is a problem for many students.

Universities are in the business of teaching and learning and the provision of accommodation has always been seen as a secondary responsibility. The primary objective of the university is to provide good and quality education to students (Birchard, 2018: 02). Universities allow students to apply for academic acceptance and the application for accommodation. The availability of spaces in the academic programmes is more than the availability of places in student's accommodations. The delays in the response for the applications of academic programmes delay the students on the application of the accommodation. A student cannot be accepted for the accommodation before being accepted for the academic programme. This delay harms students because students end up not studying because they do not have an accommodation that is closer to campus. Universities also recommend some apartments around campuses for students but most funders and scholarships are not happy with dealing with landlords directly. Most privately owned properties can be rented by students at a cheaper price but the number of students in one room is morethan what a single room can accommodate. About four to five students sharing a room in most privately owned properties which might have a bad impact on the students' success(Collis and Hussey, 2013: 10).

Students that are living in their homes do not feel the sense of freedom that other students are enjoying. They feel like they are not university students because they are left behind in many academic activities. Students that are staying at their homes cannot stay on campus until late because of the shortage of transport. Students that are staying at student residences have an arranged transport from campus to the residence. Those who want to cross-night and those who want to participate in group assignments and other academic activities cannot participate if they are staying at their homes (Mason, 2020: 02).

Student housing plays a huge role in students' academic life. Student housing is perceived as a space to accommodate students that are coming from far or out of town. Student housing needs to allow students to choose whether they want to stay at students' residences or their homes regardless of the places where they come from. Student housing should be used as a tool to advance the academic excellence of students. It is the responsibility of universities to build a sustainable living and learning student environment (Xulu-Gama, 2019: 16).

Living in a student-friendly environment supports academic success. Staying in an environment that is formally structured for students assist the students to excel academically. A room that has a built-in table for studying and a proper chair for students to assist. According to Morris, Smith, Davis and Null (2016: 378), a place that has reliable security and structured management, and proper facilities to assist students contribute to academic success. Social programmes and academic programmes organized in students' residences contribute to the success of students. Frequent engagement of students with their lecturers contributesto academic excellence. Peer support and the support of those who are in higher levels help students that are in students' residences. Students' residences teach students to be independent and to be responsible for all their actions. At students' residences, there are different types of people from different parts of the world. Diversity is experienced and students can be able to survive and live with different types of people with no conflict, this helps students when they get employment far from their homes (Republica, 2020: 01).

Academic performance of students in general

Several factors contribute to the academic performance of students in the universities. Factors such as socio-economic, accommodation, class attendance, family income, lecturer and student ratio, and the distance between the home of a student and the campus. These factors influence the academic performance of students and affect the completion of their qualifications. The university infrastructure, family support, peer influence, and student's financial situation contribute to the success of students. The health status of students also affects the academic performance of students but this factor only affects few students amongst the student population. The good academic performance of students increases the graduation rate. When students graduate on time, they get an opportunity to further their studies. This is one of the reasons why most students perform well in their studies and commit themselves(Calitz, Cullen and Jooste, 2020: 270).

Academic performance is not important for students only but also for academic institutions. Academic institutions that have a good record of success rate attract more prospective students and prospective employees. There are different views amongst institutions on what contributesto the poor performance of students in universities. Other scholars believe that academic performance is not affected by place of residence, gender, and age. While others believe that a place of stay plays an important role in academic performance. This suggests that those who live near to university have a possibility of performing better than others who live far from university(Stephens, Fryberg, Markus, Johnson and Covarrubias, 2012: 1178). Further to that, Infrastructure can be seen as related to education, such as lecture theatres, libraries, athletic and recreation facilities, furniture, laboratories; institutional blocks such as electricity and water. Students are getting better articulated inside the facilities available in the institution. The teaching and learning process is closely linked to each other, the bigger the class, the students will get direct guidance from the lecturers and it has become easier for them to accomplish these objectives. It would be a positive thing if students have a higher class to have a good academic result, but students need to make more effort to learn.This is because online learning is the fastest way for students to study. It can be said that, if the infrastructure is well fitted, the lecturers can pay careful attention to it and the findings will indicate a strong incentive for students to have improved academic success and more successful learning.The focus of this research is that student performance in intermediate examination is linked with students' outline consisted of the approach towards communication, learning facilities, proper guidance, and family stress. Colleges and universities have no worth without students. Students are the most essential asset for any educational institution. The social and economic development of the country is directly linked with student academic performance. The students' performance (academic achievement) plays an important role in producing the best quality graduates who will become great leaders and manpower for the country thus responsible for the country's economic and social development(Payne-Sturges, Tjaden, Caldeira, Vincent and Arria, 2018: 350). Student academic performance measurement has received considerable attention in previous research, it is a challenging aspect of academic literature, and science student performance is affected due to social, psychological, economic, environmental and personal factors. These factors strongly influence student performance, but these factors vary from person to person and country to country. From the last few years in South Africa literacy rate and education improved and most of the institutions in South Africa improved the educational level and produced well educated, competitive and skilled people and they met dynamic growing market requirement(Hen and Goroshit, 2014: 117). Previous studies on student academic performance focused on issues like gender difference, teacher's education, and teaching style, class environment, socio-economic factor, and family educational background. This study focused on the living conditions as a factor that contributesto the academic success of tertiary education students. The focus of this study is on differentiating the academic performance of students that are staying in a student accommodation provided by the university and those that are staying in their homes or self-provided accommodation (Etikan, Bala, Babatope, Yulavi and Bakir, 2017: 04).

Performance of students that stay at their homes

In recent years, policymakers have paid increasing attention to the many ways in which factors beyond school influence a child's educational outcomes. Indeed, recent research finds that the "poverty" achievement gap that is, the difference in academic achievement between poor and non-poor children has grown faster than the racial achievement gap. However, there is less universal awareness of the extreme trauma that children may experience, including homelessness, domestic violence, parental substance addiction, abandonment, and physical or sexual abuse.Such trauma is consistently related to a wide range of undesirable life conditions, including poverty, juvenile delinquency, adult crime, low academic performance, drug abuse, behavioral disorders, and ill-health. The effects of early childhood abuse have significant repercussions not only for victims but also for households, classrooms, and neighborhoods.The academic struggles of youth in the foster care system have received growing attention(Ryan and Jacob, 2018: 03).

Work is challenging, and some students may experience their first low grade. Many of the students have performed well in high school. Any high school classes aren't as rigorous as college and University. A student must learn the standards and style of grading of a specific professor.Students are expected to maintain their schedules and develop healthy learning habits. There's no one around to push the student to prepare, go to work, or have a decent night's sleep. Students need to build a framework that fits them(Yanbarisova, 2015: 450). Time management is a discipline that can be acquired or expanded by work.Students will be curious

about brand new areas of research and may change their career aspirations and major plans. Parents who feel that their student's aspirations and ambitions are set in stone may be shocked. While many classes are small, some students can feel intimidated by big classes. They may be the youngest in the class or the least experienced in the subject. A lot of students are accustomed to being the young and brightest, and this is a major change for them.Any professors might not be as thrilling and demanding as they hoped they would be(Castelli, Hillman, Buck and Erwin, 2007: 240). Although some professors are fascinating lecturers, some of them are not. Some lead debate classes and expect students to do a lot of talking. Any students may have difficulty reading and writing assignments. The level of writing required can be higher and higher than anticipated in high school. Some students require special tutoring in writing, grammar and spelling. Any of the readings could be more complicated and difficult than expected. Assignments may require a variety of readings and a lot of time than student allocations. Students may be nervous about their success.There's a tangle of stuff to sort out, such as which classes to take, how to get to know, where to go for this or that. There's a lot of energy in attempting to make sense of the current world. Students can feel overwhelmed and confused from time to time. The universities and colleges have modern and special language and rituals. Concepts such as deans, chancellors, convocations can be new(Adebayo, 2015: 03).

Food isn't like home cooking. During the first year, students will gain weight by eating too much sugar, starch, and fast food. Many of the students complain about the meal. The food is pretty healthy, a lot of their hate comes from dining at the same place for three meals a day, seven days a week, and it's not their mom or dad's cooking. Students dress differently than they do in middle school. As their adolescents explore their identity, they may look radically different during the first vacation or two home.There are so many options that students may feel frustrated and will not be able to complete assignments and activities. There are so many clubs, groups, events, classes, seminars, athletic practices, and issues that it is often impossible to know what to do. Work will suffer if the student stretches too thin. Conversely, studies suggest that sound constructive participation will help students make better use of their time and enhance the quality of their work. Some students don't get enough sleep and get sick because they're dedicated to so many groups and/or tasks, balance is the trick(Osaikhiuwu, 2014: 172).

Performance of students that are staying at students' residences

At a university level, students are leaving old friends behind. They can keep up with them through emails and vacations. In some cases, they're going to go their different ways. Some students, particularly those who have had the same friends since high school, can be shocked and saddened.Students will be faced by people from a range of cultures. Cultural disparities exist; cultural differences; and differences in sexual identity, faith, beliefs, and lifestyle. It can feel daunting to start with new people. It could be hard to make new friends. It also offers students the ability to build a new identity. There will be emotions of approval as well as of dismissal. It takes energy to deal with fresh thoughts, new faces, and the risk of rejection.Roommates also have varying lifestyles, beliefs, and ways to do things. A roommate can be special, dirty, trustworthy, inaccurate, assertive, helpful, loud, confused, and difficult to deal with(Adama, Aghimien and Fabunmi, 2018: 15). Any students find it daunting to live with a new person. It will be convenient for others, and friendships will emerge. If a student calls home to whine about a roommate's dilemma, urge them to do something first. Residence Assistants (RAs) have been qualified to assist with this process. Students may need to ask about moving roommates if, for example, the situation becomes uncomfortable if a roommate is violent. The RA also provides help with that, too.There may be depressed students who tend to depend excessively on their teenage friends for guidance, caring, and nurturing. Any student can be very mentally distracted and needy. This can be demanding, and it can take a lot of time and resources. The student has to know when to say, "I can't do this" and when to refer his or her peer to the RA or to counsel.Some students also call home, others don't(Parameswaran and Bowers, 2014: 58). It is necessary to consider the student and parent's preferences regarding the type of interaction that would be maintained. Have a conversation about what a family member needs as a minimum and desires as a pinnacle of touch. Often explore optimal times of day, days of the week that value each person's sleeping patterns, research needs, work schedules.Family composition shifts, parents may experience independence as children leave home, or they may feel a great sense of loss. Or they could feel all of them. A father can find himself the only man among his wife and daughters. A mother may find herself the only woman among her husband and her sons. The phone could be louder than it was before. New space could become usable. When the student goes home, he or she might feel like they've all swallowed up the student's room and gone on.Students may choose not to come home for a holiday, or may not be able to

do so because of cost or distance. Maybe they'll be welcomed somewhere. They could attend campus service trips like Habitat for Humanity. If parents are looking forward to home visits, they may need to change their hopes.Parents ought to show concern and curiosity, and encourage their teens to seek adequate support where possible, to make wise decisions, and to benefit from the experience. Parents are not permitted to move in and do it for their students. However, some of the circumstances might be overwhelming and challenging for teenagers. There is a good balance between taking a true interest and giving support, while not allowing teenagers to focus too heavily on themselves(Grigg, 2012: 390).

Students living in university residences encounter bad living conditions, are away from their homes and family, research tension, a bizarre schedule, and a lack of readily accessible direction. Their physical health is suffering. The majority of students had reservations about living arrangements in their residences. They mean they're not in good shape.Stress, depression, fatigue, insomnia, and dietary problems are normal. International students suffer most from cultural shock, accent, and nostalgia. There has been a trend to commit suicide, particularly in girls(Schwartz, 2011: 354). Financial difficulties, too many to research, and the break-up of marriages are key causes. Also, they take advice from friends and ingest drugs without medication for their health conditions. Most may not use the 'Student Health Program' because of lack of information or difficult access from some colleges or university residences.Student volunteers should be educated in university residences to address their issues and promote their social integration since the majority tend to get input from their peers. A more important move will be to improve the position of the management of residences, student councilors, and faculty at the university. More recreation and social events are important. This study itself constitutes the first aspect of consciousness-raising on the health status of students residing in residences in South Africa(Eskin, Kujan, Voracek, Shaheen, Carta, Sun, Flood, Poyrazli, Janghorbani and Yoshimasu, 2016: 556).

II.   RESEARCH METHODS

The research methodology is the basic methods or strategies used to classify, pick, process and interpret information on the subject. In a research paper, the Analysis section helps the reader to objectively determine the general feasibility and reliability of the report.An effective research approach includes every magical formula to persuade the reader that the research being considered is going to be practical and useful. Also, by describing the methodology of the study, a researcher can make readers more interested in the study.Most studies can be categorized into three categories: exploratory, informative and causal(Baker, 2000: 374). Any of them serves a particular end function and can only be used in such respects. In the field of online surveys, mastery of all three will contribute to sounder observations and higher quality information.Primary data is the type of data that researchers obtain directly from key sources, while secondary data is data that has already been obtained from primary sources and is freely accessible to researchers for use in their study.The primary data source is the original data source, that is, one in which the data are gathered by the researcher for a particular research purpose or mission. Primary data can be obtained in a variety of forms. Primary data collection is very costly and time-consuming relative to secondary data collection.Secondary data refers to data obtained by someone other than the main researcher(Snyder, 2019: 334). Popular sources of secondary data for social science include censuses, statistics gathered by government agencies, internal reports, and data initially collected for other research purposes. This study applied secondary research methodology. Sources such as newspaper articles, conference findings, government gazettes, and online reports were used to reach the conclusions.

III.   DATA ANALYSIS

According to Pandey and Pandey (2015: 07), data analysis is the method of systematically applying mathematical and/or logical methods to explain and demonstrate, condensing and recapping, and analyzing data. The precise and adequate interpretation of research results is a critical component of maintaining data integrity.Analysis of data is the most critical aspect of any research. The data interpretation summarizes the data gathered. It includes the analysis of the data obtained through the application of empirical and logical reasoning to determine patterns, associations, or trends(Pandey and Pandey, 2015: 15).Data Processing styles are text, mathematical, diagnostic, predictive, prescriptive analysis. Data analysis consists of data

condition selection, data collection, data maintenance, data analysis, data interpretation, data visualization.This study analyzed the existing data related to the objectives of the study. Data obtained from newspaper articles, journal articles, government reports, and reports from the Department of Higher Education and Training was analyzed to reach conclusions and findings for this study.

IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The #FeesMustFall campaign, which has led to student demonstrations around the world. South Africa has brought to the fore numerous issues relating to student activism, restructuring of education, ethnicity, and race. It also addressed problems relating to integration and exclusion and financial/material challenges (including food and housing issues) faced by students in higher education. In the end, massive demonstrations prompted the national government and universities to put in place a ban on the rise of intuition. The protest of students in various university students is an indication that the universities do not provide for the needs of students. Lack of adequate student accommodation has been at the centre of many students' protests in South Africa. Students preferred accommodation provided by the universities because of the facilities that are students friendly(Baker, 2013: 1015).

The problem of student housing is not new to post-apartheid South Africa. When Jacob Zuma was elected president in 2009, the Higher Education and Training Department was established and it was assumed that the separation of post-school institutions from the Basic Education Department would help to resolve problems in higher education institutions, including student housing.In 2010, Blade Nzimande, Minister of Higher Education and Training, appointed a ministerial committee to review the availability of student accommodation in universities(Naicker, 2016: 54). But demonstrations and boycotts persist due to lack of housing and student residence conditions.Students at the University of Limpopo complained in 2009 against housing, the National Student Financial Aid System, and the perceived victimization of students by some staff members. Students from three universities, the Mangosuthu University of Technology in Durban, the Tshwane University of Technology, and the Stellenbosch University of Tygerberg, protested in 2010 over housing. The problems were polluted homes and pricey housing.Secure student housing in public higher education institutions is the responsibility of the state, the university, and the community. When the 2010 ministerial committee was set up, it was clear that the need for housing would not be addressed soon as the number of students grew. Government and universities have sought intervention from the private sector(Ndlovu, 2017: 10).

Since the 2015-2016 #MustFall demonstrations and Zuma's 2017 declaration that the government will finance free higher education for poor and working-class students, more first-year students are enrolling in higher education. While Zuma mentioned that more student housing will be constructed, old student housing restored and immediate attention paid to historically marginalized schools, the current scarcity of accommodation is dehumanizing for students who are unable to afford housing, and this has a direct impact on their academic performance.Since on-campus resident is poorly regulated, students are under-regulated, resulting in overcrowding as well as health and safety risks(Luescher, 2016: 23). Off-campus housing can be more accessible, but it is not necessarily academically advantageous or well-controlled and can result in a violation of their right to reasonable standards of health and safety. The need for accommodation persists and a shack was erected at the University of Cape Town in 2016 to call attention to the housing crisis. Students went to the Mankweng Police Station at the University of Limpopo to seek better living conditions after a student living off-campus was wounded, others raped and houses robbed.In 2016, Nzimande organized a student housing symposium in Unisa, Pretoria, attended by students, the private sector, higher education institutions, and a variety of partners to discuss student housing shortages and support for new housing. Students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) complained against the terms of residence in 2018. Under the #Kwazekwanzima hashtag, which means it's very tough, students wanted improved living arrangements at the residences, which had flooded as it rained, bed bugs, and no hot water for showers(Oxlund, 2016: 03).

Despite all the protests and the availability of students' accommodation one of the decisions a student has to make even before starting university is where to live.For others, the decision can be as straightforward as choosing to remain at home if it's convenient to get to campus. However, many students need to travel to

another area, province, or region to attend university. There are several alternatives available, including residential schools, purpose-built student residences, family homestays, and private rentals. Although each student has particular needs and desires, there are several advantages to choosing student-centric accommodation. Most universities offer boarding facilities where students can stay on campus(Brown, 2017: 12). Not only does this save them time, but it also saves them money on vehicle repairs or public transport costs. It also offers convenient access to campus facilities such as the library and other student support services, such as academic support, student welfare support, and co-curricular activities. Off-campus student properties are typically located near the university or conveniently accessible by public transport. Suburbs with a high density of student housing are often filled with supermarkets, moderately priced hotels, 24-hour convenience stores, ATMs, and other retail options that cater to students' needs.Social opportunities such as living conditions and the network of friendships they create are among the best things about student housing. Although it is possible to form long-lasting friendships with peers in lectures and seminars, it is a very different experience to have friends living in the same house(Luckett and Mzobe, 2016: 03).

Student properties are usually furnished with shared areas where students can prepare, eat and socialize together in a healthy and welcoming atmosphere. Thanks to the heavy emphasis of the household on learning, working together makes group work and collective study easier to accomplish. Student housing most frequently organizes group events such as excursions, movie nights, and even bar crawls. These friendships will transform into potential job networking opportunities, and students need to have a meaningful university day(Knudsen and Andersen, 2019: 241).

Where a student stays could have a huge effect on the academic success of that individual student. Student accommodation is a significant contributor to the all-round growth of the country's universities and hence cannot be overlooked as a player in the student's overall success. Aware attempts to provide students with decent housing must be influenced by numerous policy decisions to ensure that these institutions deliver eligible graduates.Off-campus students are likely to be exposed to distractions ranging from deafening sound, intrusion to co-located rumors, unbearable noisy noise, an unreliable power source that can have a detrimental influence on their academics. On the other hand, on-campus students may have fewer, more, or entirely different obstacles that may also impact their academic success(Kim and Lee, 2016: 45). Style of housing could have a direct effect on student academic success, so it is fair to believe that on-campus students appear to have a higher average of academic performance than their off-campus peers. Academic excellence in tertiary institutions has been at the forefront of cases of low performance. There have been several reports of students fleeing campus due to bad academic results. This research thus underlines the value of constructing more hostels to boost the academic success of the university. Other tertiary institutions may use this analysis to generalize or base their results on form impact. This research determined whether the overall student performance varies substantially depending on the type of accommodation(Beylefeld, Jama and Mapesela, 2008: 994).

This study, therefore, presents a view that students that are staying closer to campus have more advantages compared to students who are staying far from campus. Further, students that are staying in residences that are provided by universities have the added advantage of adequate facilities that allow them to study effectively. Students' accommodation that is provided by universities is conducive for studying and allows students to have everything that supports the student to succeed in the academic programmes. This study found that students that are staying in student residences perform better compared to those that are staying in their homes or self-provided accommodation(Zakaria, Kassim, Mohamad and Buniyamin, 2011: 114). The reports made by various universities in South Africa on the academic performance indicated that the percentage of students that complete their qualifications on record time is higher on students that stayed in student residences. Students' accommodation provided by universities is not adequate but those who are allowed to stay in university accommodations are expected to complete their qualifications on record time. Various universities have different systems of checks and balances. Some universities have a specific percentage of pass marks that allow a student to return to the students' residence. This criterion put pressure on students to perform well(Hugh Mehan Professor, Student and Irene Villanueva Supervisor, 1994: 95).

V.   CONCLUSION

This study concludes that student housing has been listed as one of the significant elements in tertiary institutions. The provision of accommodation for students allows tertiary institutions to draw a vast number of students from diverse nationalities and backgrounds to higher education. The lack of housing leaves students with no alternative but to find accommodation outside, and this denies them amenities such as closer proximity to classrooms, convenient access to libraries, campus-wide internet connection, fast laundry services, social contact with fellow hall tenants, improved networking opportunities, involvement in university social events. Parentsbenefit from the knowledge of the location of the accommodation and that allows them to know the price level of the boarding houses and their location.

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