

**A STUDY ON SELF-MOTIVATION AMONG THE
FINAL YEAR UNDERGRADUATES OF EASTERN
UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA**



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2010

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ABSTRACT

In this competitive world, organizations expect many requirements from a prospective candidate for a job for the purpose of fulfilling particular job requirements at a bottom level. Self motivation is one of the key requirements come under the personal quality of a candidate. This study has explored about the self-motivation in the perspective of final year undergraduate students of four facilities (Arts and Culture, Agriculture, Science and Commerce and Management) of EUSL.

The objectives of this study were to find out the level of self-motivation among the final year undergraduate students of EUSL; to compare the level of self-motivation among the final year undergraduate students of the four faculties of EUSL and to find out differences in self-motivation of final year undergraduate students of EUSL in terms of type of study, gender, civil status, religion, ethnicity, district and living area.

The research framework of study consists of six variables which are used to measure the level of self-motivation of respondents. They are self-determination and goal setting, self-confidence and self-efficacy, positive thinking, competitive thinking, activation, and responding constructively to the feedback. The study was conducted among the 266 final year undergraduate students of EUSL. Purpose of the study, type of investigation, extent of researcher interference with the study, study setting, unit of analysis and time horizon were descriptive, non-causal, minimal, non-contrived, individual and cross-sectional respectively. The structured questionnaire was administered to collect the data from the respondents. The collected data were analyzed by using univariate analysis (descriptive measures such as mean and standard deviation) and bivariate analysis (only cross-tabulation).

The results of the study showed that there is a higher level of self-motivation (mean value: 4.03) among the final year undergraduate students of EUSL. The mean value for the faculty of Arts and Culture, Commerce and Management, Agriculture, and Science were 4.12, 4.02, 3.97 and 3.89 respectively. In cross-tabulating the level of self-motivation with the type of study, gender, civil status, religion, ethnicity, district and living area, there were some slight differences were observed. When comparing the special degree students with general degree students, general degree students have slightly higher level of self-

motivation. When comparing male and female student, male students have somewhat higher level of self-motivation. Considering single vs. married students, single (unmarried) students have relatively higher level of self-motivation. Comparing three religious groups, Christian students group has slightly higher level of self-motivation than other groups. In comparing ethnicity, students who are belonged to the Tamil ethnic group have higher level of self-motivation. Based on district of the students also, there are slight differences can be observed among the 11 districts. Finally comparing living areas of students (urban vs. rural), both have same level of self-motivation among themselves. Finding of the study will be important on exploring empirical knowledge regarding the concept of self-motivation.

Keywords: Motivation, Self-motivation, and Final year undergraduate