ABSTRACT

ENTREPRENEURSHIP: A CHALLENGE FACING THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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This study set out to discover the challenge facing the education system of Trinidad and Tobago if we are to promote the development of more entrepreneurs, from a wider social spectrum of the society. In order to determine the challenge facing the education system it was first necessary to determine the way entrepreneurial intelligences were developed by successful entrepreneurs in different fields of activity in Trinidad and Tobago.

To do so an ethnographic approach to the collection and analysis of data was required. The study found that people from all social strata and ethnicities were able to function successfully as entrepreneurs. The study discovered two paradigms of entrepreneurship: one dominant and based on family and commercial type activities, the other, oppressed, more inclined to innovation, and less dependent on family involvement. The study recommended education reform at the primary and secondary level based on an emphasis on values and work, with a heavy emphasis on apprenticeship using the Best (1996) “School in Pan” model and metaphor.

Key words: Samuel Nicholas Lochan; Entrepreneurship; human development; challenge for education; apprenticeship model advocated.