

## **ABSTRACT**

### **An Investigation Into Teachers' Use of the Design Portfolio in Assessing Technology Education at a Sub-Urban Secondary School in the West of Trinidad**

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This study sought to investigate teachers' use of the design portfolio in assessing technology education at a suburban secondary school in West Trinidad, in order to demystify the importance of the processes involved in producing a design portfolio as an assessment tool in technology education. Data were collected through interviews with the teachers of the Technology Education Department of the school under study. The findings revealed that the teachers felt that they were not properly prepared, in terms of training and the procurement of the necessary specially designed and equipped lab, for the implementation of the design portfolio as an assessment tool. Further, the teachers felt that if the implementation of this system was properly administered and supported with the required training, resources, and/or lab, they would have been more motivated (and, by extension, students would have been more motivated) to use the design portfolio as an assessment tool with greater enthusiasm.

**Keywords:** Portfolios; Technology education; Secondary school teachers; Urban schools; Student evaluation; Evaluation methods; Trinidad and Tobago