AN INVESTIGATION OF THE STATUS OF UWI AND U-TECH GRADUATES WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE IN INDUSTRIES

A THESIS

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ABSTRACT

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COMPUTER SCIENCE IN INDUSTRIES

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The purpose of this Thesis is to investigate the status and effectiveness of the
Computer Science Graduates with a First Degree from the University of the West
Indies and the University of Technology, Jamaica in their work environment. The
techniques employed are action research combined with survey and interview.
The results obtained revealed that both graduates enter the workforce with
opposing but equal advantages as well as disadvantages. It was found that both
sets of graduates needed further training upon entering the industry but more so
the University of the West Indies graduate. Basically, it was found that
University of the West Indies had a more theoretical approach and University of
Technology had a more practical hands-on approach to their Computer Science
programme. Hence, their graduates reflected these qualities of their alma maters.
Industries were asked to decide which graduate was a greater asset. It was a

tough decision. Graduates were asked to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their programmes of study. Both employers and employees made some very valid and vital comments and recommendations. It is hoped that these will act as indicators to the planners and implementers of our two foremost Universities that industry should help formulate the content of their technical/vocational curricula and become actively involved in the practical demonstration and applications of the computer in its every day setting of the real work environment.