

**THE PREPARATORY YEAR EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MEASURE (PEEM):
HOW STUDENTS PERCEIVE THEIR FIRST YEAR OF COLLEGE**

Kamel M. Mansi
University of Nottingham
UK
kamal.mansi@nottingham.ac.uk

Mohamed M. Al-Eraky
Imam Abdurrahman bin Faisal
University
Saudi Arabia
maleraky@iau.edu.sa

Hesham F. Marei
Gulf Medical University
UAE
prof.hesham@gmu.ac.ae

Mubina R. Abdul Subhan
Imam Abdurrahman bin Faisal
University
Saudi Arabia
mrauf@iau.edu.sa

Zeineb A. Khan
Imam Abdurrahman bin Faisal
University
Saudi Arabia
zaaslam@iau.edu.sa

Imran M. Ahmed
Imam Abdurrahman bin Faisal
University
Saudi Arabia
immanzoor@iau.edu.sa

Ghazi A. Alotaibi
Imam Abdurrahman bin Faisal
University
Saudi Arabia
galotaibi@iau.edu.sa

ABSTRACT

Learning environment plays a significant role at all stages of learning in a student's life. Most of the research on learning environment is about teaching and learning mainly in schools. At higher education level, the educational environment measurement scales have been developed for teaching and learning, student-teacher interactions and students' academic performance. Studies on educational environment that include how the domains of physical environment and friendship networks influence student achievement, are rare. The existing instruments might not be able to capture the nuances of the educational environment in the PYP of Saudi universities. Therefore, a need was felt to conduct a study of impact of both physical and social aspects of educational environment on student achievement. A new measurement tool, The Preparatory Year Educational Environment Measurement Tool (PEEM) was developed to measure student perceptions of the environment in the Preparatory Year Program of Imam Abdur Rehman Bin Faisal University, Dammam. The results showed male students, engineering track students (male and female) and those who studied in private schools were more satisfied with their educational environment. Further research can be done in the same venue to analyze qualitatively the perceptions of students regarding their educational environment.

Keywords: Educational Environment, Physical Environment, Student Satisfaction, Teaching And Learning, Friendship Networks