

## **The Headmaster-As-A-Mentor: A Mentoring Model for Rural Primary Schools of Sarawak**

**Adi Badiozaman Tuah**

This paper attempts to present an alternative approach to training and improving the quality of teachers serving in rural schools of Sarawak. Based on the understanding that teacher training places are quite limited and that there are limited opportunities for meaningful interaction between school personnel and the central office or the teacher training institutions, it is argued that the overall quality of the teaching learning processes can be achieved through a systematic and properly structured school-based teacher training and guidance programme. A mentoring approach that places the headmaster as the mentor is viewed as a suitable alternative, as administratively and professionally it will have these merits: (a) It will provide the temporary teachers the opportunity to continue to serve in their respective schools, and at the same time receive some form of formal training and guidance; (b) It will allow for a better cooperation, collaboration and teamwork and greater sense of ownership among the school personnel and also between the school and the local education institution and the teacher training colleges; and (c) It will encourage greater staff professional growth as the mentors will also be gaining from the training they received to become effective mentors and from the actual process of guiding and helping the beginning and the temporary teachers under their care.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 1-15*

## **Between Fact and Fiction: Artifacts and Ethics in Social Research**

**Toh Wah Seng**

The purpose of this paper is to raise awareness among new researchers on the importance of recognizing the effect of systematic errors or artifacts on the validity of a knowledge claim based on the scientific method. Efforts to minimize such artifacts may however come into conflict with the need to comply with ethics. This paper explores the rationale of the scientific approach, outlines some of the possible threats to a knowledge claim, and emphasises the need to find a balance between scientific rigor and the need to comply with ethics.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 86-92*

## **Development of a Self-Efficacy Scale for Assessing Secondary School Students' Science Self-Efficacy Beliefs**

**Mary Wong Siew Lian**

This paper details the development of a self-efficacy scale for assessing secondary school students' science self-efficacy (SSE) beliefs. Differences in the way self-efficacy and self-concept are assessed is discussed in light of the conceptual difference between self-efficacy and other self-percepts. Steps in the formulation of the scale in accordance with theoretical guidelines on how self-efficacy should be assessed and measures of instrument validity and reliability are presented. In conclusion, the suitability of the scale developed is discussed.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 45-54*

## **Satu Kajian Kes Tentang Jenis dan Kekerapan Penggunaan Kaedah Pengajaran dan Pembelajaran Matematik oleh Guru Pelatih KDPM Semester Empat (Ambilan Julai 1999)**

**Choy Sau Kam  
Khaw Ah Hong  
Lai Kim Leong**

Tujuan kaji ini ialah untuk mengumpulkan maklumat mengenai jenis kaedah pengajaran dan pembelajaran serta kekerapannya yang telah digunakan oleh guru pelatih MPBL dalam proses pengajaran dan pembelajaran matematik semasa menjalankan Praktikum Fasa I di sekolah rendah masing-masing. Peserta Kajian adalah terdiri daripada lima orang guru pelatih KDPM Pengkhususan matematik Semester IV (Ambilan Julai 1999) yang telah tamat melaksanakan Praktikum Fasa I. Kajian ini mengumpul data dengan memeriksa rekod dalam Buku Rancangan Mengajar. Kekerapan/frekuensi sesuatu kaedah dikumpulkan daripada Buku Rancangan Mengajar. Temuduga berpandu soalan berstruktur juga diadakan dengan lima orang peserta yang terpilih di mana penekanan diberi kepada bahagian data yang merupakan penjelasan pelajaran tentang mengapa peserta kajian lebih cenderung menggunakan kaedah eksposisi dalam pengajaran dan pembelajaran matematik. Analisis data hasil daripada Buku Rancangan Mengajar menunjukkan lebih kurang 98 % Rancangan Mengajar ditulis adalah dirancang menggunakan kaedah eksposisi.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 93-104*

## **Student-Centered Pedagogy: Lest We Forget**

**Toh Wah Seng**

The purpose of this paper is to argue for the need to address the concern of teachers and teacher educators in relation to the perceived lack of efficacy of the student-centered pedagogy in promoting student learning in schools. Evidence of pedagogical efficacy of the student-centered approach is adduced to debunk the myth that it is inferior to the teacher-centered approach in promoting students' cognitive achievement. The link between teachers' pedagogical belief system and students' learning approach provides a useful framework to argue for the need of a paradigm shift in teachers' belief system both at the school level as well as at the teacher education level.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 16-25*

## **Satu Tinjauan Terhadap Sikap dan Masalah Guru Bahasa Melayu di Sekolah Rendah Jenis Kebangsaan**

**Tay Meng Guat**

Makalah ini memuatkan hasil tinjauan tentang sikap dan masalah guru Bahasa Melayu di Sekolah Rendah Jenis Kebangsaan. Penemuan kajian mendapati bahawa guru-guru menunjukkan sikap yang positif terhadap pengajaran dan pembelajaran BM dengan min skor 3.28. Guru-guru juga menunjukkan komitmen yang tinggi terhadap pengajaran dan pembelajaran BM di sekolah. Majoriti guru bersetuju bahawa mereka masih perlu mengikuti kursus dalam bidang pedagogi bahasa khususnya yang berkaitan dengan aspek penulisan dan bacaan serta pemulihan dan pengayaan dalam pendidikan BM. Kursus-kursus ilmu bahasa yang menjadi pilihan guru ialah aspek yang berkaitan dengan penulisan, bacaan, morfologi dan sintaksis. Masalah utama yang dihadapi oleh guru ialah penguasaan asas BM yang lemah di kalangan murid dan pengaruh dialek atau gangguan bahasa ibunda murid. Guru juga berhadapan dengan masalah yang berkaitan dengan kurikulum dan pentadbiran.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 78-85*

## **Reengineering the Library System of Batu Lintang Teachers' College**

**Tee Seong Beng**

As an important source of knowledge, all resource centers need to be managed efficiently. Currently, majority of the resource centers in Malaysia is still using the traditional manual method of keeping records. This method is inefficient and it brings problems to both the managers and the users of resource centers. The inefficiency and non-user-friendliness of resource centers is a hindrance to the acquisition and retrieval of knowledge by its users. This paper describes the application of Business Process Reengineering's principles to the analysis and redesign of the library system of Batu Lintang Teachers' College (BLTC). As a result of the reengineering exercise, a computerized library system has been developed and implemented. Among others, this paper also discusses the various changes to the management of the resource center and how the resource center has benefited from this reengineering exercise.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 26-44*

## **Teacher Efficacy and Educational Beliefs in a Malaysian Student Teaching Practicum**

**Toh Wah Seng**

The purpose of the study was to investigate the impact of a Malaysian student teaching practicum on the student teachers' sense of teaching efficacy and educational attitudes. A preliminary purpose was to investigate the psychometric properties of the Malay version of the Teacher Efficacy Scale and the Educational Attitude Inventory. Fifty participants were involved in the pilot study while 223 participants were selected for the main study. Results indicate that the two scales retained their psychometric properties. The findings show that the practicum effected an increase in student teachers' personal teaching efficacy, a decrease in their general efficacy, an increase in their teacher-centered attitude and a decrease in their student-centered attitude. These findings indicate that the impact of the practicum on student teachers' efficacy and educational beliefs as has been found in studies in the developed countries also holds true in the context of multi-cultural Malaysia.

---

*Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Measurement and Evaluation in Education (ICMEE), 122-131*

**Satu Tinjauan: Kepentingan Muzik Sebagai Mata Pelajaran Wajib  
dalam Kurikulum Pendidikan Guru**

**Chai Sheau Ming  
Roseline Liu  
Chong Pek Lin  
Tan Ming Tang**

Kajian ini bertujuan meninjau (a) persepsi guru pelatih beropsyen muzik Maktab Perguruan Batu Lintang tentang kepentingan muzik sebagai mata pelajaran wajib dalam Kurikulum Pendidikan Guru, (b) tahap minat guru pelatih beropsyen muzik dan bukan beropsyen muzik terhadap muzik, dan (c) persetujuan mereka yang muzik harus ditawarkan sebagai satu mata pelajaran wajib di maktab. Borang soal selidik telah digunakan untuk mengumpul data dan sampel kajian adalah terdiri daripada kesemua guru pelatih semester dua Kursus Diploma Pendidikan Malaysia. Dapatan kajian menunjukkan kebanyakan guru pelatih beropsyen muzik semester dua (93.33%) berpendapat bahawa pendidikan muzik penting kerana (a) ia boleh menjadikan guru pelatih lebih yakin sebagai guru muzik pada masa akan datang dan (b) ramai (91.67%) berpendapat ia dapat memupuk semangat bekerjasama dalam aktiviti muzik. Juga didapati 88.11% guru pelatih semester dua meminati muzik dan 74.5% guru pelatih bukan beropsyen muzik bersetuju bahawa muzik harus ditawarkan kepada semua guru pelatih sebagai satu mata pelajaran wajib di maktab.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan MPBL, 4, 55-77*

## **A Glimpse into the Self-Regulated Learning Strategies that Local Secondary School Students use in Learning Science**

**Mary Wong Siew Lian**

**Siow Heng Loke**  
University of Malaya

This paper presents findings on the self-regulated learning (SRL) strategies that secondary school students use in learning science. Three hundred and twelve students (151 males and 161 females) of Form 2, Form 4 Science, and Lower 6 Science classes were asked to describe the strategies they would use in eight hypothetical science learning contexts. Nineteen SRL strategies and three nonstrategic behaviors were identified. On the whole, the extent of students' use of SRL strategies was moderate. Students appeared to mention the use of strategies such as seeking information, self-environment structuring, physical environment structuring, rehearsing, and seeking peer assistance more often than self-check, reviewing notes and completed work, self-consequating, organizing information, and seeking other social assistance. Implications of the findings and suggestions for further research are discussed.

---

*Jurnal Penyelidikan Pendidikan BPPDP, 5, 100-120*