

# STRENGTHENING HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL WORKFORCE

*Editors*

Munir Shuib  
Shukran Abdul Rahman  
Morshidi Sirat



**IIUM Press**



Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2009  
© IIUM Press, IIUM

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without any prior written permission from the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Strengthening higher education for a successful workforce / editors Munir Shuib, Shukran Abdul Rahman, Morshidi Sirat.

Includes index

ISBN 978-967-5272-06-6

1. Education, Higher--Malaysia. 2. Universities and colleges--Malaysia. I. Munir Shuib. II. Shukran Abdul Rahman. III. Morshidi Sirat, 1955-.  
378.595

Printed by:

Ampang Press Sdn. Bhd.  
6 Jalan 6/91, Taman Shamelin Perkasa  
Batu 3½, Jalan Cheras  
56100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Tel: 603-92849448 Fax: 603-92849105  
E-mail: ampress@streamyx.com

---

# LEARNING E-PORTFOLIO: RECONCILING CONSTRUCTIVIST PORTFOLIOS WITH POSITIVIST PORTFOLIOS IN RESPONSE TO OUTCOME-BASED APPROACH TO LEARNING

*Nuraihan Mat Daud*

## Introduction

In the Malaysian *National Higher Education Strategic Plan* and *National Higher Education Action Plan 2007-2010*, seven thrusts are identified and these include: widening access and enhancing quality; improving the quality of teaching and learning; enhancing research and innovation; strengthening higher learning institutions; intensifying internationalisation; enculturation of lifelong learning; and reinforcing the ministry's delivery system. Many commended the plan for the bold move to transform the landscape of tertiary education in Malaysia (Chapman et al., 2007).

Quality seems to be the gist of the plan. Where quality programme is concerned the above goes hand in hand with the Malaysian Qualifications Framework which ensures that academic programmes and courses offered meet the required standards. One initiative taken by the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education to improve the quality of learning is to encourage the adoption of outcome-based approach. This approach focuses on what the students will be able to do after they complete a course. The adoption of this approach has implications on curriculum planning and teaching methods. Spady (1988; 1993) states that the desired outcome will have to be selected first and the curriculum, instructional materials and assessment serve to support the intended outcome.

The assessment focuses on well-defined learning outcomes, and portfolio is said to be one of the suitable assessment tools for this learning environment. As there are many different types of portfolios, the one