



Identification of Vocational Talent among Students: Theoretical Perspectives

Rahayu Ahamad Bahtiar *, ***Ramlee Mustapha***, ***Ahmad Mohamed Sharif***,
Mohamed Nor Azhari Azman, ***Tee Tze Kiong***
Faculty of Technical and Vocational Education
Sultan Idris Education University, Perak, Malaysia

Asnul Dahar Minghat
Faculty of Education
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor, Malaysia

**Corresponding author: rahayuab@iab.edu.my*

ABSTRACT

Skilled human capital is essential in economic development of a country. Despite the importance of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in providing skilled workforce, students with vocational talent are difficult to be identified in schools due to the lack of a precise instrument to measure specific vocational traits. This conceptual article aims to identify the vocational talented students by determining their attributes. There are numerous studies on vocational interests and personality but few studies on the identification of vocational talent. As such, this article deliberates on theoretical domains and related vocational literature to encapsulate the concept of vocational talent. Further, this study also attempts to decipher the factors influencing vocational choice of students. Based on the relevant theories and previous studies, several important attributes can be identified to determine the traits of vocational talented students. In the future, it is hoped that a rigorous instrument could be constructed to measure the vocational talent.

Keywords: Technical and vocational education and training, vocational interest, vocational personality, vocational talent, Malaysia