

PhD Research Design and Descriptive Theory: Theoretical Framework for Development of Integrated Management System

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Abstract : The importance of theory for PhD construction management research cannot be underestimated, as it requires a sound theoretical basis. Theory efficiency reduces errors in the research problem, solving it by building upon current theory. Provides a structure for examination, enables the efficient development of the construction management field and to its practical real world problems. The aim is to develop the theoretical framework for the application of descriptive theory within the PhD research design. To apply the proposed theoretical framework using the case of the topic of 'integrated management system,' classifying the phenomena into categories, explore the association between the category-defining attributes and the outcome observed. Forming categorization based upon attributes of phenomena (framework and typologies), and statement of association (models). Predicting (deductive process) and confirming (inductive process). The descriptive theory is important and provides a structure for examination, enables the efficient development of construction management field and to its practical real world problems. In conclusion, the work done in management presents fertile ground for research and theory development.

Keywords : descriptive theory, PhD research design, theoretical framework, construction management

Conference Title : ICCCE 2016 : International Conference on Construction and Civil Engineering

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : February 25-26, 2016