

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS TO DROPPING OUT OF SVAY RIENG UNIVERSITY, CAMBODIA

Dr. Houy Sam Ath, Svay Rieng University, Cambodia

Mr. Or Chanthan, Svay Rieng University, Cambodia

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Introduction

- The problem of dropping out occurs at all levels of education and in all countries, which has a serious impact not only on the education system but also on the socio-economic as well as the drop-out students themselves.
- The rising dropout rate reflects the gap between industrialized and developing countries as well as high unemployment (Yumiko Yokozeki, 1996), which has slowed the country's development.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Sponsor  CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

Problem Statement

Faculties	Year 1	Year 2		Year 3		Total Percent
	Students	Dropouts	Percent	Dropouts	Percent	
Business Management	604	191	31.6	76	18.4	44.2
Agriculture	48	17	35.4	9	29.0	54.2
IT	101	30	29.7	32	45.1	61.4
Social Science	470	124	26.4	128	37.0	53.6
Human Science	43	19	44.2	3	12.5	51.2
Total	1266	381	30.7	248	26.1	49.7

Source: Annual report of student statistic, 2022. Svay Rieng University, Cambodia

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Problem Statement

- The high rate of dropout in Svay Rieng University has still been unclear explored.
 - Some existing informal studies - absenteeism, lack of parents' involvement, family structure and practice.
 - However, these studies do not focus broadly on socio-economic status of students, school and community which influence on dropout.t

Objective of the Study

The purpose of the research was to determine causes and solutions on the decision to dropping out of Svay Rieng University, Cambodia.



**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Literature Review

- According to Krstic et al., 2017, dropout refers to students who have left the education system without completing the school year in which they started, ie. those who are not eligible for the final degree for the school year.
- In addition, Pop et al., 2017 indicates that the term dropout describes the status of a student who has enrolled in an educational institution and left without a degree.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Literature Review

Reasons for dropping out

- Reasons for student status (Rumberger, 1983; Entwisle et al., 2004)
- Reasons for family situation (Srairi, 2021)
- Reasons for university situation (Srairi, 2021)
- Reasons from community and country (Cooper et al., 2009; Entwisle et al., 2004)

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Research Design

Research Type

- Quantitative approach with a structured questionnaire was utilized to collect primary data on research study.

Respondent

- Students who already left university unsuccessfully after their first and second academic year 2019-2020. The sample size was set at $n=144$ respondents out of a total $N=629$.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Research Design

1. factor according to personal students,
2. factor according to students' finance,
3. factor according to student's study plan,
4. factor according to family situation,
5. factor according to university, and
6. factor according to teachers.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Data Analyze

- KMO - Reliability and validity tests of the measures from the questionnaire
- Statistical tools - mean and standard deviation test for descriptive analyze
- Analytic procedures using SPSS software.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Sponsor 

Findings

Profile of respondents

Variables	Groupings	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	91	63.2
	Female	53	36.8
Dropout by Faculty	Business	58	40.3
	Agriculture	4	2.8
	Human Science	4	3.5
	IT	23	16.0
	Social Science	54	37.5
Dropout	Semester 1	83	57.6
	Semester 2	27	18.8
	Semester 3	19	13.2
	Semester 4	15	10.4

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Sponsor 

Findings

Reasons for Dropout According
to Personal Students

KMO = 0.841

Cause of Dropout	Mean	Standard Deviation
Poor learning from high school	1.94	1.15
More absences in class	1.60	1.03
Low proficiency of foreign language	2.50	1.25
Physical disability	1.25	0.77
Class Repetition	1.41	0.95
Young marriage	1.33	0.84
Less desire to learn	1.77	1.20
Employment	1.94	1.24
Discrimination	1.45	1.03
Total average	1.69	

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Sponsor  CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

Findings

Reasons for Dropout According
to Students' Finance

KMO = 0.884

Cause of Dropout	Mean	Standard Deviation
Not receiving a scholarship	2.34	1.45
Parents lose their jobs	1.83	1.25
Work overtime	2.42	1.39
Support the family income	2.67	1.44
Not receiving university's accommodation	2.22	1.37
Fear of losing a job	2.06	1.24
Low salary from work	2.17	1.29
Work long hours	2.31	1.43
Total average	2.25	

Findings

Reasons for Dropout
According to Students' Study
Plan

KMO = 0.859

Cause of Dropout	Mean	Standard Deviation
Cannot follow the study plan	1.93	1.23
Do not know how to plan a study	1.94	1.20
Hard to find suitable group study	1.92	1.20
Cannot concentrate while studying	1.94	1.28
Contrary to the expect of high school goals	1.94	1.25
Cannot set specific academic goals	2.02	1.21
Total average	1.98	

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Sponsor 

Findings

Reasons for Dropout
According to Family
Situation

KMO = 0.851

Cause of Dropout	Mean	Standard Deviation
Parents are low education	2.08	1.27
Less members in family	2.17	1.32
Family income is low	2.53	1.40
Demotivated family in education	1.83	1.16
University is far away from home	2.36	1.38
Orphanage in the family	1.44	0.99
Lack communication with university	1.83	1.17
Total average	2.03	

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Sponsor 

Findings

Reasons for Dropout
According to University

KMO = 0.943

Cause of Dropout	Mean	Standard Deviation
Lack mechanisms to track the study	1.52	0.99
Does not offer extracurricular	1.66	1.06
Does not recognize the educational quality	1.53	0.97
Low provision of student support services	1.72	1.16
Lacks sufficient study materials	1.63	1.10
Cannot use the internet in university	1.69	1.09
Application of strict discipline	1.46	1.94
Excessive students in classroom	1.62	1.08
Improper attitude of service staff	1.49	1.03
Improper maintenance of university infrastructure	1.74	1.18
Total average	1.60	

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Findings

Reasons for Dropout
According to Teachers

KMO = 0.953

Cause of Dropout	Mean	Standard Deviation
Lacks of lesson preparation	1.38	0.84
Lack of teaching methodology	1.45	0.97
Lacks of lesson explanation	1.44	0.91
Absenteeism	1.48	0.97
Teacher qualification is still low	1.46	0.90
Lack of student encouragement	1.56	1.01
Complicated assignment	1.54	0.92
Misapply theory to real practice	1.61	1.01
Difficult exam to be solved	1.45	0.79
Low score from exam	1.38	0.79
Total average	1.47	

Findings

Top Ranked Reasons for Dropout

Factors of Dropout	Mean	Rank
Factors related to students' financial	2.25	1
Factors related to family situation	2.03	2
Factors related to study plan	1.98	3
Factors related to university	1.74	4
Factors related to students	1.69	5
Factors related to teachers	1.47	6

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Conclusion

Main reason for decision to drop out:

- According to personal student found the low proficiency of foreign language
- According to students' finance found the family income
- According to students' study plan found the being unable to set specific academic goals to achieve

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Conclusion

Main reason for decision to drop out:

- According to family situation found the low family income
- According to university found the improper maintenance of university infrastructure
- According to teacher found the misapply theory to practice
- By comparing to the total average the top rank of dropout is relating to students' finance.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Recommendation

- Foreign language ability - Placement test in English before enrollment or general English to strengthen language skills.
- Communication and Consultation - Counseling to students in terms of learning difficulties or any problems in the family, workplace, as well as personal lives.
- University Infrastructure - Need to equip study facilities timely, strengthen student information services, strengthen security, order, and improve hygiene both inside and outside the classroom.

**A NEW PARADIGM OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES**

SEAMEO RETRAC, July 13-14, 2023

Recommendation

- Teacher Qualification - Select at least one core subject according to the student's major in the first and second year and assign highly qualified teachers to teach.
- Linking practices - Linkage with industrial sectors to response the current market needs, such as internships, work orientation workshops, study visits, short training courses, etc.

References

- Al-Dossary, S. A. (2008). *A study of the factors affecting student retention at King Saud University, Saudi Arabia: Structural equation modelling and qualitative methods*. University of Stirling.
- Allensworth, E. M., & Easton, J. Q. (2007). *What matters for staying on-track and graduating in Chicago public high schools: A close look at course grades, failures, and attendance in the freshman year*. Consortium on Chicago School Research.
- Annual report (2020). Students statistic (2019-2020) of Svay Rieng University. Svay Rieng University, Cambodia.
- Annual report (2021). Students statistic (2020-2021) of Svay Rieng University. Svay Rieng University, Cambodia.
- Annual report (2022). Students statistic (2021-2022) of Svay Rieng University. Svay Rieng University, Cambodia.
- Balfanz, R., & Legters, N. (2004). *Locating the dropout crisis: Which high schools produce the nation's dropouts? Where are they located? Who attends them?* Center for research on the education of students placed at risk (CRESPAR). *And a few more ...!*