

**Title** : **The Relationships between High School Achievement, Undergraduate Achievement, and Entrance Examination Scores of Undergraduate Students at Suranaree University of Technology from Academic Years 1997 to 2000**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This research aimed to (1) study and compare the high school graduate' cumulative grade point average (GPAX), (2) study and compare the undergraduate GPAX after graduation, (3) study and compare the entrance examination scores, (4) study the correlation between the high school GPAX and the undergraduate GPAX, (5) study the correlation between the high school GPAX and the entrance examination scores and (6) study the correlation between the undergraduate GPAX and the entrance examination scores. The research samples consisted of undergraduate students at Suranaree University of Technology (SUT) from academic years 1997 to 2000. Secondary data were collected from the Center for Educational Services of SUT. The data obtained were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Kruskal-Wallis one way ANOVA by ranks, and Somer'd correlation.

The major findings were as follows:

1. The quota students' high school GPAX was significantly higher than that of the entrance examination students' at .05 level of confidence. The students' GPAX from the middle and the large school sizes was significantly higher than that of the students from the extra large school size at .05 level of confidence.
2. The quota students' undergraduate GPAX from the years 1998 to 2000 was significantly higher than that of the entrance examination students' at .05 level of confidence, but the students' undergraduate GPAX from different school sizes was found not to be different.
3. The positively skewed distribution of the entrance examination scores from the years 1997 to 2000 were found to be significant at .05 level of confidence. However, the entrance examination scores of the students in the information technology field of study from the years 1997 to 2000 (science-math program), the information technology field of study (art program) of the years 1998 and 2000, and the health science field of study of the year 2000 were found to be close to normal distribution.

4. Only the correlation between the high school GPAX and the undergraduate GPAX of the entrance examination students' from the years 1998 to 2000, the province quota students' from the years 1998 to 1999, the students from the middle school size from the years 1998 to 2000, and the students from the large and the extra large school sizes from the years 1998 to 2000 were found to be significant correlated at .05 level of confidence. The magnitudes were found to be low to moderately low.

5. The high school GPAX and the entrance examination scores from the years 1998 to 2000 were found to be significantly correlated at .05 level of confidence in certain subjects. The magnitudes were found to be moderately low.

6. The undergraduate GPAX and the entrance examination scores from the years 1998 to 2000 were found to be significantly correlated at .05 level of confidence in certain subjects and in certain fields of study. The magnitudes were found to be moderately low.