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Hapsah S. Mohammad, Nelson Lajuni, Sin Kit Yeng

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Current Trend and Development on Intellectual Capital and Performance: A Bibliometric Analysis

Hapsah S. Mohammad¹, Nelson Lajuni², Sin Kit Yeng³

¹Faculty of Accountancy, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sabah Branch, 88997 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, ²Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), 88400 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, ³Faculty of Business and Economics, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), 94300 Kota Samarahan Sarawak, Malaysia

Email: nelsonl@ums.edu.my

Abstract

For both society and organizations, intellectual capital is critical. It could be a source of competitive business advantage that leads to the generation of wealth. This study aims to conduct a bibliometric review on current trend and development of 'Intellectual Capital' and 'Performance' over 63 years (1956-2020) on topics related to business, economics and accounting. By adopting bibliometric analysis, we derived data from Scopus online database as of December 12, 2020. Based on the 'keywords' search results, our study finalized 1,621 valid documents for further assessments. We utilised Harzing's Publish and Perish to analyse basic evaluations before proceeding with VOSviewer for data visualization purposes. The findings highlight the trend of literature on 'Intellectual Capital' and 'Performance' since its inception in 1956. The number of publications achieved 100 publications since 2013 and keep increasing each year. Most previous publications were in English, with more than 178 authors from more than 97 different countries. Using specific keywords of 'Intellectual Capital' and 'Performance', the results were derived based on the titles and keywords of the documents. Thus, the results of the search query for other fields such as abstracts, and different keywords are excluded. This paper offers an overview and better understanding of the current trends and development of the topic since its inception in 1956, and also serve as a valuable reference and direction for future research.

Keywords: Intellectual Capital, Performance, Bibliometric Analysis.

Introduction

At the beginning of knowledge-based era, intellectual capital was viewed as a root of knowledge or knowledge collection, but the real value was not recognized (Lentjušenkova & Lapina, 2016). Scholars engaging in knowledge (e.g. Stewart, 1997) describe intellectual capital as intellectual content comprising knowledge, data, intellectual property, expertise which can be used to accumulate wealth. Meanwhile, the economists describe intellectual capital as assets with a non-physical presence to create future economic benefits (Abhayawansa & Guthrie, 2014). In relation to this, studies dealing with intangible resources