NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION INFORMATION SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT

A TRACER STUDY OF THE RECORDS AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT GRADUATES AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (2008-2012)

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ABSTRACT

The study traced Records and Archives Management (RAM) alumnae who graduated from the National University of Science and Technology between 2008 and 2012. The main purpose of the study was to find out where RAM graduates are and what they do and establish if the skills they acquired during their education were relevant to their jobs. The study also sought to ascertain the expectations of lecturers for the RAM graduates. An exploratory survey was conducted using the quantitative methodology. Data was collected through the use of questionnaires, interviews and document analysis. Data was analysed using statistical package for social sciences software. The results indicate that 67% of RAM graduates are employed. The greatest number of those employed is employed in parastatals. Skills that graduates acquired during their education were relevant to their jobs though they were not happy with the deficiency of practicals and the quality of information technology coverage in the curriculum. Results also indicate that most organisations in industry are not conversant with the RAM profession. It was recommended that the Department adopts a culture of carrying out tracer studies which incorporate employer surveys on their graduates so as to assess their relevance to industry.