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This dissertation had three purposes : 1) to analyze the selection models and related qualification of university presidents in Thailand; 2) to compare the opinions of university presidents with those of other related personnels in regard to the selection and qualifications of university presidents; and 3) to assess the appropriateness of various selection models in relation to the needs and characteristics of university in Thailand.

The researcher employed qualitative research techniques consisting of : 1) content analysis ; 2) focus group discussion ; 3) unstructure interview ; and 4) experts' review.

The research found a variety of selection models among universities. Among these models, however, the combination of search-based and election-based model was the most widely used among public universities while private universities mostly employed the appointment-based model. In the case of Suranaree University of Technology and Walailak University the wide-scale search method was utilized in accord with the needs and conditions of the university. As for the outright election method, several problems were noted, especially those associated with student's right to participate in the selection process. In regard to the qualifications of public university presidents, there were qualifications as specified by the university act and those specified in the university by-laws. Both types of qualifications shared some common emphases including leadership, acceptance among academic communities, personal conduct, farsighted vision and good administrative experiences. As for private university, age qualification requiring the candidate to be over 25 years of age was added.