

ABSTRACT

Abstract of thesis submitted to the Graduate School of Maejo University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Agricultural Economics

THE EQUALITY OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY IN RAJABHAT INSTITUTE CHIANG MAI IN THE EDUCATIONAL YEAR 1997

By

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AUGUST 1998

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The purpose of this research was to study the equality of the opportunity to study for the 4 year level bachelor degree in Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai in the educational year 1997. The subjects were 1,556 first year students from Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai in the academic year 1997. They were 770 students from the educational program, 203 students from the science program and 583 students from the arts program. The collected data were the secondary data in the personal student records and the data of the students' entrance examination forms from the Academic Office of Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai, and the statistic data from Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, Office of the Prime Minister.

The data were analysed by using the Statistical Package for the Social Science to compute for the values of Kuznets Index, Gini Index and Lorenz Curve.

The findings of the research were as follows: As far as the economical, social, and educational background are concerned, it was found that the students who had the highest chance to study in Rajabhat Chiang Mai, which was in charge of Chiang Mai and Mae Hongson, in 1997 were 714. They lived outside the urban districts. There were 544 students whose parents' occupations were farmers, fishermen, hunters, miners, lumbermen, rock dynamiters and other works concerned. There were 853 students whose parents' income was lower than 4,166 baht per month. 1,192 students studied in public secondary schools before attending the institute. 544 students passed the secondary schools with the average score between 2.49 and 2.99. As for the equality of the opportunity to study in Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai it was found that there was the equality of the opportunity to study according to the students' domiciles for every program. There was no equality of the opportunity to study according to the parents' occupations for every program. Due to the parents' income there was the equality of the opportunity to study for the educational and the arts programs by Kuznets Index and for only the educational program by Gini Index. According to the types of schools there was the equality of the opportunity for the educational and the science programs by the Kuznets and the Gini Index and there was no equality of the opportunity to study for the arts program. There was the equality of the opportunity to study according to the average score from the former schools.