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FROM A STUDENT TO A RESEARCH ASSISTANT - STUDENT'S PROFESSIONAL GROWTH IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Abstract:

Häme University of Applied Sciences' (HAMK) projects are in line with the profiles of the research units and provide opportunities for students to participate in applied research. Integration of teaching and R&D operations develops skills needed in working life. The goal of this article is to describe using examples Häme University of Applied Sciences' (later: HAMK) electrical and automation technology students' possible road from a student to research assistant and to showcase the experiences of a few assistants in their professional growth.

Students' views were found out using a survey. Based on the answers HAMK's electrical and automation studies' current operations have created successful work experience and motivating path towards applied studies. In addition, it has helped them of their professional growth, professional profile and future career expectations.

Electrical and automation studies' students have a clear path towards becoming a member of the research community. As the activity stabilizes, this path can be brought to students as one of their career opportunities. It is a viable option for those seeking a career in R&D, but it is also suitable for those who consider research capabilities to promote their careers in other businesses.

Keywords:

Promotion of studies, professional growth, pedagogy, team teaching, quality management.

JEL Classification: I21, I23, I29