



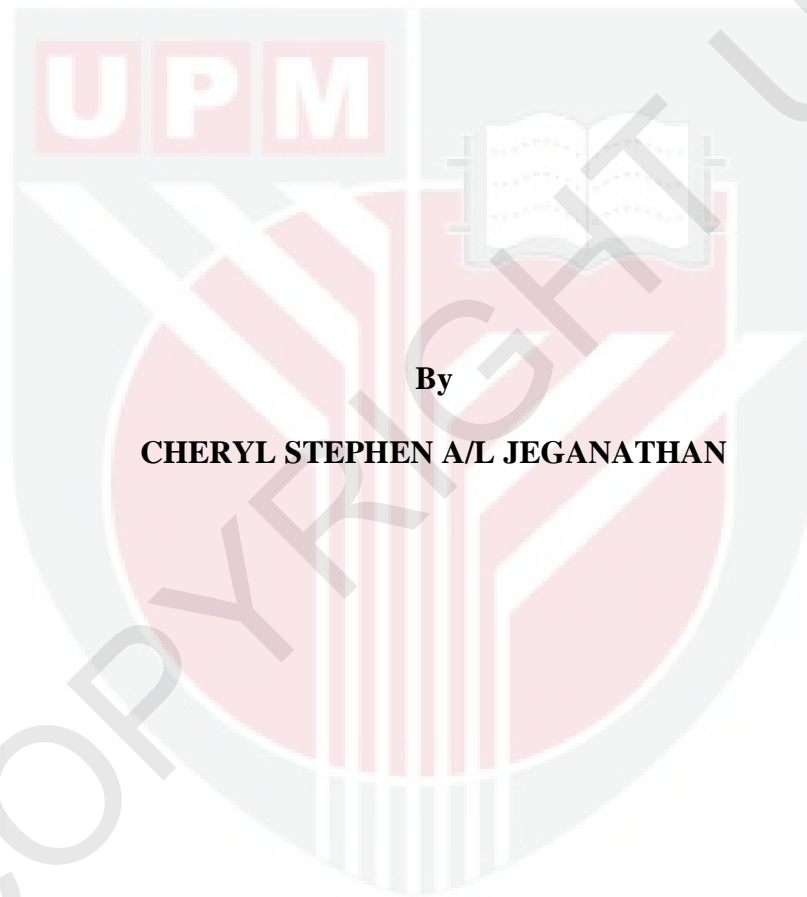
**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY AMONG UNDERGRADUATES OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES  
IN SELANGOR, MALAYSIA**

**CHERYL STEPHEN A/L JEGANATHAN**

**FPAS 2012 13**

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IN SELANGOR, MALAYSIA**



**By**

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**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science**

**December 2012**

Abstract of thesis presented to the School of Graduate Studies of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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**December 2012**

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Evaluating environmental literacy has been one of the mode by which the extend where the understanding between the nature of interdependence between the natural system and the human social system could be established. While there are many universities that have begun to evaluate their undergraduates, the environmental literacy of undergraduates in Malaysia, have yet to be assessed. The objective of this study is to determine the environmental literacy of the environmental undergraduates at public research universities in Selangor.

In this study, a descriptive research method was used. The set of questionnaires were constructed in different sections, Environmental Attitude, Environmental Behaviour and Environmental Knowledge. Data was collected using a self administered questionnaire to identify the level of environmental literacy among 418

undergraduates enrolled in environmental programs at Universiti Putra Malaysia and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. All the respondents targeted responded to the study.

The result of the study shows that the Environmental Literacy dispositions of the undergraduates were generally found to be at the moderate level, with a mean of 3.47 based on a five-point scale. When comparison was done using the contributive variable, undergraduates were found to be high in terms of their environmental behavior (Mean=3.81) and environmental attitude (Mean=3.68) and moderate level of environmental knowledge (Mean=2.93). The dispositions of the undergraduates are similar regardless of the different environmental program taken in public research universities in Selangor or in the nature of their gender. Undergraduates in Year 2 show increased level of environmental knowledge compared to Year 1. However, undergraduates from Year 3 and above do not show significant increase in this field compared with the undergraduates in Year 2. The results were similar to the previous researches, which was presented in the discussion section. It can be concluded that the environmental literacy of the undergraduates is in the moderate level, mainly contributed by moderate level of environmental knowledge, which needs improvement. The Environmental Literacy of the undergraduates is not influenced by the different environmental programs or by gender. Recommendations were discussed at the final chapter on enhancing in further study on research of environmental literacy.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Sekolah Pengajian Siswazah Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

**KECELIKAN ALAM SEKITAR DI KALANGAN PRA-SISWAZAH DALAM  
PROGRAM ALAM SEKITAR DI UNIVERSITI PENYELIDIKAN AWAM DI  
SELANGOR, MALAYSIA**

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Penilaian kecelikan alam sekitar adalah cara di mana tahap pemahaman kebergantungan di antara sistem alam semulajadi dan sistem sosial manusia dapat dikenalpasti. Ada di antara universiti di luar negara yang telah bermula menilai para graduan pra-siswazah, namun di negara ini, penilaian kecelikan alam sekitar masih belum dilaksanakan di kalangan para graduan pra-siswazah. Penyelidikan ini bertujuan untuk mengenalpasti tahap kecelikan alam sekitar dalam kalangan graduan pra-siswazah alam sekitar di universiti penyelidikan awam di Selangor.

Di dalam kajian ini, kaedah penyelidikan berbentuk diskriptif telah digunakan. Satu set soalan telah dibentuk di dalam bahagian melibatkan tingkah laku, sikap dan pengetahuan tentang alam sekitar. Data dikumpul menggunakan soalan-jawab sendiri untuk mengenalpasti kadar kecelikan alam sekitar dalam kalangan 418 pelajar pra-

siswazah yang mengikuti program alam sekitar di Universiti Putra Malaysia dan Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. Kesemua responden telah menjawab soalan yang disediakan.

Hasil penyelidikan menunjukkan bahawa kecelikan alam sekitar dalam kalangan pelajar pra-siswazah didapati pada tahap sederhana, dengan min 3.47 dalam perbandingan skala 5 mata. Apabila dibandingkan dengan pembolehubah kontributif, para pelajar pra-siswazah didapati mempunyai tahap yang tinggi bagi tingkah laku terhadap alam sekitar (Min=3.81) dan sikap terhadap alam sekitar (Min=3.68) tetapi mempunyai tahap pengetahuan sederhana tentang alam sekitar (Min=2.93). Tahap kecelikan alam sekitar didapati hampir sama dalam kalangan pelajar pra-siswazah daripada program alam sekitar berlainan di universiti penyelidikan awam di Selangor dan dalam kalangan lelaki atau perempuan. Pelajar pra-siswazah dalam tahun 2 menunjukkan peningkatan pengetahuan alam sekitar yang mendadak berbanding dengan pelajar pra-siswazah tahun 1. Walaubagaimanapun, ia telah dikenalpasti bahawa pelajar pra-siswazah dalam tahun 3 ke atas tidak menunjukkan perubahan signifikan berbanding dengan pelajar pra-siswazah tahun 2. Hasil penyelidikan menunjukkan persamaan dengan penyelidikan lepas yang pernah dilakukan dibentangkan in bahagian perbincangan. Kesimpulan penyelidikan ini adalah kecelikan alam sekitar para pelajar pra-siswazah adalah sederhana, dipengaruhi terutamanya oleh pengetahuan alam sekitar yang sederhana dalam kalangan pelajar pra-siswazah, yang memerlukan peningkatan. Kecelikan alam sekitar tidak dipengaruhi oleh faktor program alam sekitar atau jantina. Cadangan untuk

memperkembangkan penyelidikan kecelikan alam sekitar yang akan datang telah dibincangkan dalam bab terakhir.



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- 3) Prof. Dr. Nordin bin Othman (MSU)
- 4) Assoc. Prof Dr. Mohd. Talib Latif (UKM)
- 5) Assoc. Prof Dr. Latifah Abd. Manaf (UPM)



I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 31 December 2012 to conduct the final examination of Cheryl Stephen A/L Jeganathan on his thesis entitled "Environmental Literacy among Undergraduates of Environmental Programs at Public Research Universities in Selangor, Malaysia" in accordance with the Universities and University College Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Science.


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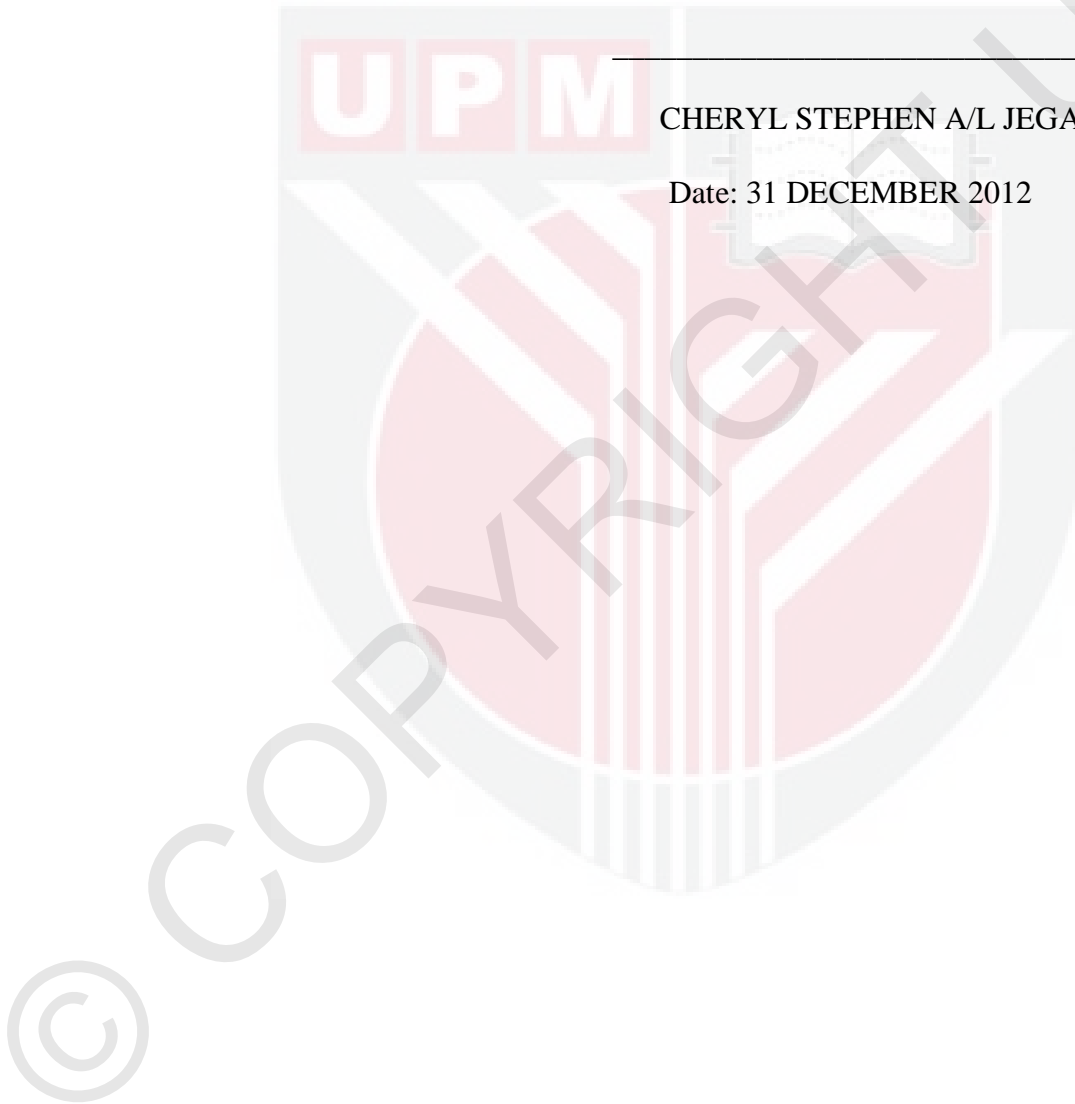
## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or other institutions.

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CHERYL STEPHEN A/L JEGANATHAN

Date: 31 DECEMBER 2012



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