



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***UPM STUDENTS' PREFERENCE FOR RECREATION SITES IN UPM,
SERDANG***

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**FACULTY OF FORESTRY
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

2016

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SERDANG**



BY

LIM XINYEE

**A Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for
the Degree of Bachelor Parks and Recreation Science in the
Faculty of Forestry
Universiti Putra Malaysia**

2016

DEDICATION

Specially dedicated to:

My beloved Father,

Lim Yong Cheng

My beloved Mother,

Pang SooLein

My beloved sister and brother,

Shuang Yee & Zhiquan

My beloved roommate & bestie,

Yee Lai Ling

My beloved classmate,

Batch Barbet

Thank you so much for all of you...

ABSTRACT

UPM students have negative perception toward quality, location, and facilities toward recreation sites in UPM. This was caused by the insufficient of outdoor recreationsites with facilities available to supply the demand of UPM students. This study aimed to determine and to map out designated recreation sites in Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) based on students' preference. A total set of 203 questionnaires were distributed to UPM's students. The questionnaire was divided into 4 sections, namely Section A which covers students' preference activities in UPM, Section B and C to obtain the students preference of potential recreation sites, and Section D to obtain social demographic background. Nine activities listed which are jogging, cycling, swimming, futsal, rugby, outdoor workout, picnic, outdoor photography, and sightseeing. The results indicated that jogging was the most popular activity among the UPM students followed by sightseeing. Results show that more than 70% students had chosen Bukit Ekspo as their first choice to pursue their recreational activities and most of them are unaware of any other locations. Based on the students' preference, several potential recreation sites were recommended and mapped out. Map production using ArcGIS 10.0 is effective to improve people understanding and visualization towards the locations and information absorption.

ABSTRAK

Pelajar UPM mempunyai persepsi yang negatif terhadap kualiti, lokasi dan kemudahan terhadap tempat rekreasi di UPM. Ini mungkin disebabkan oleh faktor-faktor yang tidak mencukupi tempat rekreasi dan kemudahan untuk membekalkan perkhidmatan kepada pelajar UPM. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk menentukan dan menetapkan tempat rekreasi yang berpotensi di Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) berdasarkan pilihan pelajar, dengan integrasi Sistem Maklumat Geospasial (GIS). Seramai 203 responden telah diedarkan kepada pelajar-pelajar UPM. Soal selidik ini dibahagikan kepada 4 bahagian iaitu Bahagian A aktiviti-aktiviti yang pelajar menyertai dalam UPM, Bahagian B dan C adalah untuk mendapatkan tempat rekreasi yang berpotensi di UPM daripada pilihan pelajar, dan Bahagian D adalah maklumat demografi pelajar UPM. Sembilan aktiviti telah disenaraikan dalam kajian ini iaitu jogging, berbasikal, berenang, futsal, ragbi, senaman luar, berkelah, fotografi dan bersiar-siar. Hasil kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa jogging adalah aktiviti yang paling popular di kalangan pelajar UPM diikuti oleh aktiviti bersiar-siar. Seramai 70% pelajar hanya bersenam dan menjalankan aktiviti rekreasi di Bukit Ekspodan mereka sebelum menyedar tentang lokasi-lokasi rekreasi lain yang berada di dalam UPM. Berdasarkan pilihan pelajar, beberapa tempat rekreasi yang berpotensi telah disyorkan dan ditetapkan. Petapengeluaran menggunakan kaedah ArcGIS 10.0 adalah berkesan untuk meningkatkan pemahaman lokasi, dan informasi serta visualisasikita.

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APPROVAL SHEET

I certify that this research project report entitled “**UPM Students’ Preference for Recreation Sites in UPM, Serdang**” by Lim Xinyee has been examined and approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Parks and Recreation Science in the Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background

Universiti Putra Malaysia is a green campus with numerous natural resources that provide a range of recreational opportunities. The potential of a destination to attract people can be determined by location-specific characteristics of the environment, such as the biophysical attributes of attractions (Chhetri and Arrowsmith, 2008). Recreation is a social activity that is highly personal. People usually visit particular locations because of some attraction or series of attractions. These attractions are either embedded in the geographical characteristics of localities in terms of their scenic qualities or else are socially constructed as discrete attractions.

Recreation potential is the inherent capacity of a location to support recreational activities. According to Chhetri and Arrowsmith (2008), contained scenic attractiveness and recreation opportunity were developed to estimate recreational potential. The 'contained scenic attractiveness' is defined as the scenic quality of a geographical space that can be seen by an observer in his or her immediate surroundings. Examples of these components include trees, understory, water bodies, slope and relief. On the other hand, 'recreational opportunity' is defined as the degree to which a recreational activity can be undertaken due to certain favourable physical or social conditions.

Oxford dictionary defines recreation as the fact of people doing things for enjoyment when they are not working. Recreational also defined as

Oxford dictionary defines recreation as the fact of people doing things for enjoyment when they are not working. Recreational also defined as connected to activities that people do for enjoyment when they are not working. There are some advantages of engaging in recreational activities such as reduce stress and agitation. People tend to be stressed nowadays because of their careers, interpersonal relationships, daily/frequent annoying incidents in life such as a traffic jam, and so on. Sweating after doing recreational exercise can help to release tension, and allow individuals to rejuvenate physically, mentally and spiritually. Next, recreation can also help individuals to save cost in medical fees. Exercising regularly can reduce the frequency of people getting sick. There are statistics from Health Fact 2013 which says that in the year of 2011, 4.40% of the total GDP of Malaysia was attributed to expenditures on healthcare.

There are a lot of recreational activities surrounding us, such as jogging, cycling, swimming, hiking, fishing, and so on. In doing so, people need a recreational site for them to conduct those recreational activities. Therefore, the government and the private sector alike should contribute in building sufficient recreational sites, such as parks, in the right corners of residential estates, such as that for condominiums, apartments, terrace houses and so on. Some of the parks should ideally have a running track, cycling track, children playground, areas for picnicking and other necessary facilities. There are a lot of recreational sites in Malaysia. They can be categorized into 2 types: manmade and natural. Some examples for manmade recreational sites would be Sunway Lagoon, A Famosa, and The Lost World of Tambun.

For Tioman Island, Putrajaya Botanic Park, Putrajaya Wetland Park, and Redang Island, they are considered as natural recreational areas.

Growth in population Malaysia increases the demand for recreational sites and facilities. Finding potential recreation sites is necessary so as to fulfill the demand from Malaysians for recreational activities. Planning of potential recreation sites in an area is not easy because it requires considerations of unique environmental factors as well as any other potential factors at each of the site. The process is time-consuming and it requires professional experts to conduct acquisition and analysis of the area-specific data.

Hence, Geographic Information System (GIS) can be used as a modern and effective tool in assisting to find potential recreation sites and also for recreational planning. GIS techniques can assist us in identifying the suitability of an area for recreational use. Franklin (1994) mentioned that Geographic Information Systems (GIS) have become a commonplace tool to be used before and during implementations of spatial strategies as the systems help individuals to arrive at resource use decisions.

1.2 Problem Statements

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) has a variety of recreational resources such as Bukit Ekspo, Equine Centre, lakes, climbing facilities and others. However, according to Law (2001), students have negative perception toward quality, location, and facilities for jogging facilities, badminton court, tennis court and netball court in UPM. The result showed a negative index which is an index that less than 2.5. On the other hand, according to Chang (2001), 33.3% of UPM students prefer to use leisure time to rest instead of participating in outdoor recreation activities. This might be caused by the insufficient of outdoor recreation areas with available facilities to supply for the demand of students in UPM for outdoor recreation activities in UPM.

Furthermore, Hasmadi and Imas (2010) did a study about the extent of GIS knowledge among UPM students; they found out that there were around 80% of UPM students who are not aware of the use and only few students know the meaning of GIS without exactly understanding its operation system and the way to implement it.

Therefore, this study is to determine and to understand students' preference toward outdoor recreational activities provided in UPM that students engaged in. In addition, to determine the existing and potential outdoor recreation sites in UPM based on students' preference. As a whole, it can also help the management of UPM to improve and maintain the facilities in order to drive students to participate in outdoor recreation around UPM area. Information obtained may guide them to improve and add more recreational facilities for students.

1.3 Objectives

The main objective of this study is to determine the students' preference for recreation sites in Universiti Putra Malaysia.

The specific objectives are listed as below:-

1. To determine students' preference toward existing and potential recreation sites in Universiti Putra Malaysia.
2. To map out designated recreation sites in UPM based on students' preferences with an integrated Geographical Information Systems (GIS) that will enhance the visualization.

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