ABSTRACT

In a developing country and emerging economy like Nigeria, entrepreneurship is vital for economic growth and development as well as nation building. Entrepreneurship importance is growing all over the world as no nation can do without young and vibrant entrepreneurs who are the engine for growth in every economy particularly in Africa that more people are learning to be more independent. This paper aims at studying the factors that affect entrepreneurial intention of Nnamdi Azikiwe University students, Awka, Anambra State Nigeria. Theory of planned behaviour and some environmental factors model were proposed and empirically tested using descriptive analysis with SPSS version 22 to analyze the data collected from the sample of 400 respondents from UNIZIK Awka, Anambra State Nigeria. Pearson correlation coefficient analysis was applied to predict if there was a relationship between each independent variable and the dependent variable.

The findings of the study indicate that with the exception of hypothesis four (H4) and hypothesis five (H5), the other four hypotheses (H1, H2, H3 and H6) have a significant relationship with the dependent variable. Although hypothesis four (H4) and hypothesis five (H5) was statistically not significant, all the independent variables have medium and low positive correlation towards entrepreneurial intention.

To sum up, the result of this research will provide valuable information for state government, banks, academic institutions as well as parents and societies that play a key role in shaping the career of students in Nigeria to maintain a more conducive favourable environment and attitude towards entrepreneurial spirit for student's intention to new venture creation. Youths are the potential entrepreneurs of the future, investing in their future will be beneficial for the nation's economic welfare in the long-run. Therefore, it is imperative to understand the student's perception towards factors that influence them to consider being self employed and an entrepreneur as they graduate from the university.