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DEPARTMENT: TOURISM AND EVENT MANAGEMENT

COURSE CODE: TEM 106

COURSE TITLE: THEORIES OF HUMAN MOVEMENT

MATRIC NO: 19/SMS06/007

ASSIGNMENT: Explain the concept of spatial interaction in migration studies.

CONCEPT OF SPATIAL INTERACTION

Spatial interaction is referred to as the dynamic flow process from one location to another. It is a general that may refer to the movement of human beings such as intra-urban commuters or intercontinental migrants but may also refer to traffic in goods such as raw materials or to flows of intangibles such as information. Based on Edward Ullman's conception in his work on "Geography as spatial interaction", there were "three bases for spatial interaction" or more fundamentally, three reasons for why things move:

1. COMPLEMENTARITY: which refers to the presence of a demand or deficit at one location and a supply or surplus at another without which there is no economic rationale for any movement.

2. INTERVENING OPPORTUNITY: is one of the bases for interaction although it typically is considered as the reason for a lack of

interaction between complementary locations. Complementarity will only generate a flow if there is no intervening, or closer, location. The flow of goods that would otherwise occur between two complementary; locations may be divided to a third location if it represents an intervening opportunity: a closer complementary alternative with a cheaper overall cost of transportation.

3. TRANSFERABILITY: this refers to the cost of overcoming distance measured in real economic terms of either time or travel cost. The cost of overcoming distance is known as the "friction of distance". If the fiction of distance is too great, interaction will not occur in spite of a complementary supply-demand relationship. Transferability relates to the easy or possibility of movement of an object from one place to another. There are three major factors of transferability which are: cost of transport, price of the goods, and law concerning the movement of the goods.