

Proposal for a Poster Presentation

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Abstract:

1.Introduction

The idea of Service-Learning was introduced at St. John's Institute, a Catholic institution in Bacolod City, Philippines in 2017-18. Bacolod City is located in central Philippines and is the capital of the Province of Negros Occidental. The area is known for the extreme gap in the socio-economic structure, thus making it a fertile ground for the implementation of Service-Learning with its numerous depressed communities. The idea was welcomed by school administrators as Service-Learning appears to be in keeping with the mission and vision of the school to provide students with an education of the head, heart, hand and habits of the students. It was also a significant development as it was introduced to the first batch of Senior High School students.

The move to include Service-Learning (S-L) in the Senior High School curriculum apparently made SJI a pioneering S-L-oriented school in the country. As the S-L implementation last year was a new experience for the school and students, activities were limited to a small group of students who engaged in a literacy promotion program in a public grade school in the city.

This schoolyear, the S-L activities were tailored for students the Grade 12 Media and Information Literacy Class to conduct Service-Learning activities allied to their respective academic strands, which are ABM (Accountancy, Business and Management) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Basically, the Media and Information Literacy Class introduces students to the nature, characteristics and requisites of different forms of media – from traditional to digital media. It also enables to develop skills that they can use in information dissemination and, at the same time, provides them an avenue to use these media not only for information purposes but also for the education of target individuals and groups. It also provides them with the capability to use messages to shape and influence public thought, beliefs and attitude toward the transformation of people and society.

The students' Service-Learning activities were aimed to:

1. Allow students to share their knowledge and skills to their target communities/groups.
2. Conduct needs analysis to determine the type and content of their activity.
3. Identify and coordinate efforts with partner organizations, like government agencies and civic organizations.
4. Make use of their Media and Information Literacy knowledge through the preparation of multi-media materials, like production of video and print materials to be shared with their target audiences- conduct actual information and education campaigns.

B. Service-Learning Activities

A dozen of activities were conducted with each S-L group composed of four to six students. Among the activities conducted were financial literacy for sidewalk vendors, including basic bookkeeping and accounting and livelihood training for mothers and other community members through the introduction of food-processing venture (conducted by ABM students);

HIV-AIDS awareness campaign for school athletes, nutrition education campaign for mothers in a depressed community and awareness campaign on migratory birds in a coastal village and blood type awareness campaign (by STEM students).

This study looks into the effects of the S-L engagement of the students on their civic consciousness and citizenship awareness. It will use in its analysis of the effects the model formulate by Dan W. Butin. Specifically, the study, jointly conducted by the head of the SJI Senior High School Department and a Grade 12 student of the school, will present the students' civic awareness development in these areas:

1. Technical knowledge (both applied and gained from the experience on the technical aspects of their academic strand)
2. Cultural Awareness (appreciation of exposure to a social setting generally different from their personal lives)
3. Understanding of the political or organizational systems and procedures (exposure to administrative structures and systems through their exposure to partner organizations), and
4. New knowledge gained from the community engagement experience (something that challenged their previous understanding of things and concerns)

Hopefully, this study will be useful not only to the faculty and students of the school in future Service-Learning activities but also to other institutions that are starting to embrace Service-Learning as a valuable pedagogy in the inculcation of values toward better citizenship and civic awareness, much more so in senior high schools in the Philippines which are gradually

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gaining interest in the education of the Filipino youth through the integration of knowledge and skills of the head, hand, heart and habits through Service-Learning.

Keywords: Senior High S-L, Civic Engagement, ABM and STEM students' Service-Learning

Biographical sketch of the presenter

Presenter 1:

- i. Last name followed by first name: Escordial, Tricia Anne Marie
- ii. Position/department/organisation/country: student, Senior High School Department, St. John's Institute, Bacolod City, Philippines
- iii. Short biography (word count should not exceed 70 words)

Tricia Anne Marie Escordial is a current grade 12 student. She was a Valedictorian when she was in 10th grade. She was awarded by the Rotary Club of Metro Bacolod for her outstanding leadership in 2017. She was also the co-author of the study, Synthesis and Characterization of Iron oxide Microparticles using Sugarcane Bagasse Extracts as Capping and Reducing Agent which was published in an Southeast Asian Multidisciplinary Journal.

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