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AN EXPERIMENT IN STUDENT COOPERATIVE ORGANIZING: THE CD 132 EXPERIENCE

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Methodology**
- 3. The Experiment: Nature, Objectives, Timeline, Current Status**
- 4. Highlights**
 - 4.1. Capital Generation**
 - 4.2. Identification of Needs and Services**
 - 4.3. Selecting Officers**
 - 4.4. Managing the Enterprise**
- 5. Benefits and Challenges**
- 6. Conclusion**



- Founded in 1961
- At present, 18 Colleges
- The College of Public Affairs (CPA) formerly College of Community Development and Public Administration is one of the pioneering colleges in the MSU.
- BS in Community Development is the only academic program offered when it opened classes in 1962.



3 Departments:

Community Dev	-	603
Public Admin	-	787
Social Work	-	522
GRADUATE	-	207
MPA	-	189
MSCD	-	15
DPA	-	3

BS in Community Development

- 1. Theory courses**
- 2. Skills Courses**
- 3. Practicum Courses – 1 sem
composed of 4 subjects
(20 units)**

METHODOLOGY

- **Personal recollection of faculty adviser validated by minutes of meeting and financial reports of the experiment's business.**
- **Interviews with current core group volunteers and alumni core group/officers through social media.**
- **Content analysis**

OBJECTIVE OF EXPERIMENT

Deepen students' understanding and appreciation of cooperative values and principles

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graph LR; A([Deepen students' understanding and appreciation of cooperative values and principles]) --> B[Hands-on experience in cooperative operation & management]; A --> C[Practice skills in coop bookkeeping & accounting]; A --> D[Financially prepare for practicum];
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Hands-on experience in cooperative operation & management

Practice skills in coop bookkeeping & accounting

Financially prepare for practicum

TIMELINE

- ❖ **December 8, 2006 – started with 22 members**
- ❖ **Lull between 2008-2012**
- ❖ **Revived in June 2012 until the present**
- ❖ **Accepted as an associate member of the CPA SHARE in January 2014**

SERVICES OFFERED

- ❖ **Credit**
- ❖ **Mini Store (snacks, school supplies)**
- ❖ **Printing business**
- ❖ **Test booklets**

CURRENT ASSETS

- ❖ **Second hand desktop computer paid from income from printing business**
- ❖ **Brand new 3-in-1 Epson computer printer**
- ❖ **Cash with CPA SHARE Coop – Php 52,000**
- ❖ **Cash on Hand**

ALLOCATION OF NET SAVINGS

- **RESERVE FUND – 20 %**
- **EDUCATION FUND – 10%**
- **CD FUND –**
- **INTEREST ON CAPITAL –**
- **PATRONAGE REFUND –**

GENERATION OF CAPITAL

- ❖ **Capital was generated from the students.**
- ❖ **Php 500 for credit service payable in staggered basis and refundable upon graduation**
- ❖ **Risk Capital of Php 100 used for College foundation day participation forms part of their initial capital investment. This is non-refundable.**
- ❖ **Donated capital from graduated members**

NEEDS/SERVICES IDENTIFICATION

- **Economic survey was done first to assess student needs and what services to offer and whether the necessary volume of business to ensure viability is present.**
- **Succeeding services came per request and as the need and capability of the group surfaces.**
- **Other considerations include availability of student volunteers to commit to serve.**

SELECTION OF VOLUNTEERS/OFFICERS

- **No student who is a CODESA officer (except year level representatives) may be allowed to volunteer. The rationale is to train as many students as possible.**
- **Core group members came from CD 132 classes handpicked by the faculty adviser based on their performance during the CPA foundation day class activity, honesty and interest in cooperatives**

MANAGEMENT OF OPERATIONS

- ✓ **Each service is managed by a group of volunteers**
- ✓ **Each service has a petty cash/revolving fund**
- ✓ **Financial reporting is done every Friday and cash exceeding petty cash is deposited with CPA-SHARE treasurer**
- ✓ **All cash transactions are documented and liquidated**

BENEFITS

- ❖ **Trainings received in managing an enterprise, recording of transactions and leadership**
- ❖ **A source of leaders at the department & college level**
- ❖ **Spilled over to practicum**

CHALLENGES

- **Heavy academic load of the faculty adviser**
- **Lack of space for said activities.**
- **Fast turn over of student volunteers made management very challenging.**
- **Out of 4 sections of CD 132 (more or less 120 students per year), around 20-25 students only sustain their participation.**
- **Those who remained were very active and committed.**

CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

- **This experience has shown that it is possible to educate and enable the youth to appreciate the values and principles of cooperatives to achieve an empowering development. With this hands-on experience, they are emboldened to promote cooperatives as an economic development strategy as seen in their spill-over activities in the field.**

WAYS FORWARD

TO REGISTER OR NOT? BUT HOW?

Photo documentation



During a weekly meeting



During CPA Foundation Day celebration



Mini store



During CPA Foundation Day