

Guidelines for Developing Student Activities of the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University

Aorakanjit Suk-imcharoen¹ and Panuwad Kalip²

^{1,2}Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, Thailand

E-mail: ¹aorakanjit.su@ssru.ac.th, ²panuwad.ka@ssru.ac.th

Abstract

This research aimed to develop guidelines for organizing student activities for students in the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. The purpose of the study was to improve and enhance the formats of student activities so that they align with students' needs, interests, and levels of participation, as well as to support students' academic, social, and personal development. Student activities are considered an important component of higher education, as they contribute to students' learning experiences outside the classroom and promote essential skills such as teamwork, creativity, responsibility, and leadership.

The population of this study consisted of students from the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts who participated in student activities organized during the academic year. A total of 258 students were selected as the sample group. The research instrument used for data collection was a questionnaire designed to gather information on students' backgrounds, participation in activities, and opinions toward student activity management. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, including frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation.

The results indicated that the majority of the respondents were first-year students, accounting for 40.33 percent. This was followed by second-year students at 33.13 percent and third-year students at 13.34 percent, respectively. The findings reflect the distribution of students who participated in activities and provide essential baseline information for planning and developing student activities. The results can be used as a guideline for improving activity management, ensuring that activities are appropriately designed to meet the needs of students at different academic levels and to enhance overall student engagement and satisfaction.

Keywords: Activity development, students, Fine and Applied Arts, skills, management

1. Introduction

The organization of activities in educational institutions plays a crucial role in developing students with a wide range of skills, enabling them to apply these skills effectively in their work and social lives. This is especially true for the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, which plays a key role in promoting creativity and developing various artistic skills. Organizing suitable and high-quality activities is therefore a critical factor in enhancing the learning experience for students in the faculty. Students can apply their knowledge and abilities for the benefit of society and themselves (Thidarath Boonnuch, 2000: 3). The goal is to foster and support students in developing desirable graduate characteristics that are nationally or internationally recognized, creating a learning society. The development of learning and the growth of students

is a key factor in guiding students toward standards and self-development, as stated by Phaitoon Sinlarat (1996, p. 5).

Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University has the mission to develop students both academically and in various skills to meet the demands of the labor market and contribute to national development. Organizing diverse and high-quality activities in the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts is therefore important in helping to promote and develop the necessary skills of students, such as creative thinking, teamwork, and professional communication and presentation skills.

Student Activities refer to activities organized collaboratively by students and/or educational institutions based on the needs, interests, and motivations for learning. Motivation for learning is the process of stimulating individuals to act in a directed manner toward desired goals, driven by internal stimuli or incentives within the students themselves (Nawaporn Srisarankullawong, 2025).

The nature of activities should be beneficial and contribute to providing hands-on experiences for students beyond regular classroom learning. These activities aim to develop students into well-rounded graduates with academic and professional knowledge, physical health, and life skills. Moreover, such activities must be promoted and supported by educational institutions (Samnao Khajonsilp, 1999).

Participation refers to the process of involving individuals in developmental activities, including shared thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving by themselves. It emphasizes active participation, problem-solving collaboration using appropriate scientific methods, as well as support and monitoring of the performance of related organizations and individuals (Samnao Khajonsilp, 1999).

However, organizing activities in the present still encounters various obstacles and limitations that may impact the quality and effectiveness of the activities conducted. Therefore, studying approaches to improve the organization of activities to make them more suitable and efficient is essential to fully meet the needs of students and align with educational objectives.

This research aims to explore the feasibility of developing student activities for the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. The focus is on enhancing essential skills and creating valuable experiences for students, which will help increase their potential and prepare them for entering the job market in the future.

1.1 Research Object

To develop guidelines for organizing student activities for students in the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

2. Literature

Organizing activities within educational institutions plays a vital role in developing students' skills and abilities comprehensively and with quality, preparing them to face challenges in the professional world and in social life. High-quality activity organization significantly impacts the effective development of students, especially within the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, which emphasizes fostering creativity and enhancing various artistic skills, such as painting, crafting, design, performance, and music. Activities organized within the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts not only enhance academic skills but also develop students' social skills, teamwork, and creative expression.

At the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, effective activity organization can strengthen students' abilities and potential to grow fully, particularly in areas such as communication skills, critical thinking, practical application of knowledge, and the development of artistic concepts that are competitive in the real world. Developing high-quality activities is therefore a key element in helping the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts achieve its goals in student development, as aligned with the curriculum and teaching objectives.

The activities organized within the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts can be categorized into several types, such as art creation activities, art competitions, artistic performances, art product design activities, and social service activities that utilize artistic skills to benefit the community or society at large. These activities not only enhance students' artistic skills and creativity but also provide valuable learning experiences, such as teamwork, time management, communication and presentation skills, and management skills.

However, current activity organization faces several challenges, such as a lack of resources, difficulties in coordinating among various departments, insufficient support from governmental or private sectors, and limitations in time and space. Effective activity organization thus requires good planning and management, along with collaboration from all stakeholders to create activities that address the development of students' skills and potential comprehensively.

From the study and survey of opinions from students, faculty members, and staff in the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, it was found that many current activities still have weaknesses in various areas. These include a lack of participation from all student groups, insufficiently engaging presentations of work, and a lack of activities that develop management and professional presentation skills, which are crucial in the modern era. Therefore, developing activities that align with preparing students for the future is essential and should be continuously improved and enhanced.

To enhance the effectiveness of activities within the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, the process should begin with analyzing and evaluating past activities. This can be done by gathering feedback from all stakeholders to identify the strengths and weaknesses of previous activities. The insights gained can then be used to improve and optimize the organization of future activities. The development of activities should focus on fostering essential skills that students need in the workplace, such as teamwork, creative thinking, using technology for creative projects, and improving time and task management abilities.

In terms of coordination, collaborating with external organizations, such as governmental or private sectors, can help provide resources and opportunities to organize higher-quality activities. Partnerships with businesses or various organizations can create opportunities for students to showcase their work on national platforms, boosting their confidence and developing their professional presentation skills.

Furthermore, activity development should emphasize sustainability by monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of activities after their completion. This helps to assess their impact on students and society and provides valuable insights for improving future activities. Developing activities in this manner will provide students with diverse and meaningful experiences, while also preparing them to enter the workforce effectively.

3. Methodology

This research aims to study student participation in activities at the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. A questionnaire, developed based on relevant literature and research, was validated by experts for quality assurance. The target group consisted of 258 undergraduate students from the 1st to 4th year. Data collection took place at the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts between February and May 2024, using a 5-point Likert scale questionnaire with interpretation criteria. The data were analyzed using basic statistics, including percentage, mean, and standard deviation, to provide clear research conclusions.

4. Results

The analysis of the data from the survey of 258 students revealed that most students expressed a strong desire for volunteer activities/community service, leadership development activities, and activities related to technology/information/media/media literacy. The average rating for the desire to organize these activities was 4.81 (96.25%).

1. The utilization of research findings in practical work (for students, staff in their departments, and other relevant organizations):

1.1 The university is aware of the needs for organizing student activities.

1.2 The information obtained will help in developing and organizing activities that are appropriate for students.

2. The impact of changes in working methods: Students participated in activities that met their needs, resulting in their satisfaction with activities that aligned with their interests.

3 Lessons learned: The research findings should be applied to improve student activities, ensuring that they benefit both the faculty and students.

5. Conclusion

Demographic Information of Survey Respondents The data on the number and percentage of survey respondents classified by gender revealed that the majority of respondents were male (31.81%), while female respondents made up 68.19%. **Student Activities** From the survey responses of 258 students, it was found that most students expressed high satisfaction with the organization of activities, with an average rating of 4.79 (95.88%). According to Mantana Inthusamit (2006), one reason for the high satisfaction levels with student activities is the students' strong interest in participating. Although students spend most of their time studying, this aligns with the study by Dusanee Tatsanajantanee, Laksanee Meenanan, and Supis Laphaworn (2003), which stated that students see benefits in various aspects of student activities, such as making more friends, fostering positive attitudes and values toward arts and culture, improving physical health and fitness, and promoting environmental conservation. **Reasons for Not Participating in Student Activities.** The reasons for not participating in student activities include inadequate publicity about the activities, lack of encouragement or invitation to join, and the time commitment required to participate in these activities.

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