How the Integration of the Service-Learning Program into Major Curriculum Effects Students' Work -- Based on the Viewpoints of Graduates

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Introduction

Background

- The focus of the current studies on the Service-Learning program in Taiwan mainly falls into the growth of students after taking such learning and the introduction about the Service-Learning program with special features.
Introduction

- Background
  - I am the only teacher use Service-Learning programs in my department.
Introduction

- Background
  - What we had done before this study?
    - in-depth interviews
    - analyze the feedbacks of the students' weekly service practice after the program ended
    - investigated among the students in the programs by questionnaire
Introduction

- Background
  - To teachers, to verify the effectiveness of their teaching methods is the most important basis for testing their teaching effectiveness.
The main purpose of this study was to understand if the integration of service-learning into professional courses has a long-term effect on students.
Research Method

- For teachers, the expected learning effects should last long and assist the students after graduation.
- In-depth interviews
- 5 graduates from 2008 to 2010 who have learned the principal researcher's program
**Interview Samples**

- One of them was studying at graduate school, and the rest four of them were working.
- Among the four subjects who were working, three of them were social workers, and one engaged in service industry.
- In terms of gender, three of them were female and two of them were male.
- Among these five subjects, four of them suggested that the course design of service-learning course was beneficial to them why they indicated that they were willing to receive the interviews, while one of them suggested that it was not necessarily essential to receive a course of service-learning course design.
Research Results

- Opinions on the Integration of Service-learning into Professional Courses
  - four of them indicated that they supported and approved of the integration of service-learning into professional course and suggested that service-learning would facilitate their learning of professional course. Moreover, it also increased their perception and reflection on future career planning.
Research Results

Opinions on the Integration of Service-learning into Professional Courses

- one subject expressed completely different opinions and comments.
- although service-learning might be helpful to students, learning should be the responsibility of learners.
- he suggested that students should assume the responsibility for learning, while teachers should only request students to provide services additionally.
The effect of the service-learning courses on the learning and benefits to students after graduation

- The interviews were conducted to understand if the learning in junior and senior was affected after the courses were taken.
- The subjects all mentioned that service-learning was substantially beneficial to their future required internship courses.
Research Results

- Comparison with courses of non-service-learning teaching method
  - The original teaching design of different course should be different because their learning themes or objectives might be different.
  - Teachers should be able to design the best and most suitable teaching method according to the status of students.
Research Results

- Effect of service-learning on post-graduation development
  - Possible job opportunities
    - A and B indicated that the reason why they obtained current work opportunities was related to their participation in service-learning courses when they were sophomores.
Research Results

- Effect of service-learning on post-graduation development
  - The effect on the conduct of current work
    - volunteer supervisor or volunteer manager.
    - career planning
    - Research
    - change attitude to provide services
Research Results

- Effect of service-learning on post-graduation development
  - The effect of service-learning on work attitude
    - compared with the coworkers or classmates of the same institutions or departments, it seemed that their reflective competence and executive ability were better.
Discussion and Conclusions

- The Service-Learning program can not only provide them with more experience in the further study of the major courses, but also help them understand the expertise, and bring benefits to their job hunting.