

The 8th Annual Conference 2016: (Enabling Regional Quality in Education)



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EXTENT OF PARTICIPATION, BENEFITS AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY GULF COLLEGE STUDENTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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INTRODUCTION



Gulf College envisions producing innovative, creative and adept graduates at par with international standards of excellence; hence, its programmes aim to hone the ability of the students to think, achieve, and excel.

Extracurricular activities are organised after the study hours and provide learning experiences complementary to the modules taken by students in the classrooms.

It is important for a lecturer to be properly guided in the management of extracurricular activities.

It has been observed, however, that lecturers are not so much adept in planning and undertaking such activities.

It is also important that the top management and the staff should know the extent of the participation of the students in the extracurricular activities, the benefits and the current problems encountered by the students. This situation thus prompted the researcher to undertake this research.



STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM



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1. What are the extracurricular activities offered by the college to the students?
2. What is the extent of participation of students in extracurricular activities?
3. What are the benefits of extracurricular activities as perceived by the students?
4. What are the problems related to involvement in extracurricular activities as perceived by the students?



SCOPE AND DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY



The study was limited to the identification of the extracurricular activities, the extent of students' participation, the benefits derived from participating in the extracurricular activities and the common problems related to the involvement of students in extracurricular activities.

The survey on the extent of participation and problems encountered was limited to the Gulf College students in the three faculties: Faculty of Foundation Studies, Faculty of Business & Management Studies and Faculty of Computing Sciences during the academic year 2015-2016.

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EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OFFERED BY GC TO STUDENTS



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Academics

1. Spelling Bee
2. Extemporaneous Speaking
3. Group Presentation
4. Essay Writing
5. Quiz Bowl
6. Poster Competition
7. Photo Essay
8. Greeting Cards

Sociocultural Activities

1. Drama (Theatre Arts)
2. Slogan making
3. Painting
4. Playing musical instruments
5. Poetry reading
6. Videography
7. Scouting (male and female)

Sports Activities

1. Football
2. Handball
3. Swimming
4. Athletics
5. Basketball
6. Volleyball
7. Table Tennis
8. Badminton
9. Lawn Tennis
10. Chess



EXTENT OF INVOLVEMENT OF GC STUDENTS IN ECA

I. Extracurricular Activities sponsored by the faculties: FBMS, FCS and FFS (Academic)

	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. Spelling Bee	3.55	High Participation
2. Extemporaneous Speaking	3.20	Average Participation
3. Group Presentation	3.00	Average Participation
4. Essay Writing	3.50	High Participation
5. Quiz Bowl	4.00	High Participation
6. Poster Making	2.70	Average Participation
7. Photo Essay	2.90	Average Participation
8. Greeting Cards	2.0	Low Participation
Weighted Mean	3.11	Average Participation



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EXTENT OF INVOLVEMENT OF GC STUDENTS IN ECA

II. Extracurricular Activities sponsored by the Centre for Student Activities (SPORTS)

1. Football	4.20	High Participation
2. Handball	2.20	Low Participation
3. Swimming	2.20	Low Participation
4. Athletics	2.95	Average Participation
5. Basketball	3.00	Average Participation
6. Volleyball	3.10	Average Participation
7. Table Tennis	4.10	High Participation
8. Badminton	3.20	Average Participation
9. Lawn Tennis	3.00	Average Participation
10. Chess	3.50	High Participation
Weighted Mean	3.155	Average Participation



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EXTENT OF INVOLVEMENT OF GC STUDENTS IN ECA



III. Extracurricular Activities sponsored by the Centre for Student Activities (SOCIOCULTURAL)

1. Drama (Theatre Arts)	2.00	Low Participation
2. Slogan Making	3.00	Average Participation
3. Painting	2.25	Low Participation
4. Playing Musical Instruments	2.00	Low Participation
5. Poetry reading	2.50	Low Participation
6. Videography	3.0	Average Participation
7. Scouting (male and female)	3.10	Average Participation
Weighted Mean	2.50	Low Participation
Overall Mean	2.90	Average Participation

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PERCEPTIONS OF GC STUDENTS ON THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM ECA



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Benefits Derived from the extracurricular activities

I. Academics	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. Molds the lives of students to become well rounded individuals.	3.55	Provide great benefit
2. Boosts excellent academic performance.	3.60	Provide great benefit
3. Establishes relationships with other HEIs or organisations.	2.20	Provide some benefit
4. Improves self-image through competitions with other faculties and HEIs.	2.45	Provide some benefit
5. Improves language skills.	3.50	Strongly benefit
6. Teaches teamwork.	3.40	Strongly benefit
7. Provides greater opportunities for students in availing scholarships in the college.	3.00	Strongly benefit
8. Develops public speaking abilities.	3.35	Strongly benefit
9. Helps enhance overall personality.	3.30	Strongly benefit
10. Develops students' self-confidence during competitions.	3.53	Provide great benefit
Weighted Mean	3.19	Strongly benefit

PERCEPTIONS OF GC STUDENTS ON THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM ECA



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II. Sports		
1. Develops students to be prompt/ punctual in competitions and rehearsals.	3.75	Provide great benefit
2. Teaches teamwork	3.85	Provide great benefit
3. Develops good followership and leadership in the team.	3.70	Provide great benefit
4. Boosts excellent academic performance.	3.45	Strongly benefit
5. Develops good discipline	3.65	Provide great benefit
6. Develops students' self-confidence during competitions.	3.30	Strongly benefit
7. Competes honestly according to the rules. Learn to abide with the decisions	3.80	Provide great benefit
8. Learns to abide with the decisions of the referees or authorities.	3.55	Provide great benefit
9. Develops sportsmanship among competitors.	3.60	Provide great benefit
10. Learns to accept limitations.	3.35	Strongly benefit
Weighted Mean	3.60	Provide great benefit



PERCEPTIONS OF GC STUDENTS ON THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM ECA



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III. Sociocultural		
1. Shows love for one's country.	3.45	Strongly benefit
2. Develops poise and good manners.	3.00	Strongly benefit
3. Encourages self-expression.	3.70	Provide great benefit
4. Encourages creativity.	3.40	Strongly benefit
5. Helps in relaxation of mind and body.	3.30	Strongly benefit
6. Develops values of goodwill, industry and patience.	3.75	Provide great benefit
7. Develops cooperation among members.	3.65	Provide great benefit
8. Develops awareness of national concerns and issues.	3.60	Provide great benefit
9. Develops skills in portraying the history of the country through dramas and plays.	3.50	Strongly benefit
10. Provides opportunity to develop specialised skills.	3.35	Strongly benefit
Weighted Mean	3.47	Strongly benefit



PERCEPTIONS OF GC STUDENTS ON THE PROBLEMS THEY ENCOUNTER IN PARTICIPATING IN ECA



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Problems encountered by the students in participating extracurricular activities

A. Implementation	Mean	DI
1. Extracurricular activities disturb classes and therefore requires coping with missed lectures.	1.20	Not serious
2. Extracurricular activities are not planned and undertaken properly.	1.25	Not serious
3. Extracurricular activities are conducted without the guidance and supervision of lecturers or coaches.	1.15	Not serious
Weighted Mean	1.20	Not serious
B. Funding		
1. The college allocates insufficient funds for extracurricular activities.	1.35	Not serious
2. Students shoulder finances for the conduct extracurricular activities.	1.45	Not serious
3. Extracurricular activities are suspended or postponed due to lack of budget.	1.30	Not serious
Weighted Mean	1.40	Not serious
C. Equipment and Facilities		
1. Materials used in the conduct of extracurricular activities are inadequate.	1.50	Slightly serious
2. Materials needed for extracurricular activities are provided by students or participants.	1.55	Slightly serious
3. There are no enough school facilities for sports/athletics activities.	1.60	Slightly serious
Weighted Mean	1.55	Slightly serious



CONCLUSION

Gulf College takes its role of equipping students the functional communication and higher order thinking skills by providing various extracurricular activities every year.

Students' extent of participation is average in academic and sports activities and low participation in sociocultural.

Sports activities provide great benefit while academic and sociocultural strongly benefit the students. Thus, it is salient that Gulf College should continue to provide additional extracurricular activities.

Implementation and funding are not serious problems in the conduct of extracurricular activities. Nonetheless equipment and facilities, which is slightly serious problem, should be taken into consideration by the management in order to encourage more students to participate in extracurricular activities.



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PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS



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1. The administrators should motivate more students to participate in the extracurricular activities by giving them scholarships such as special discounts or free tuition fee.
2. The college should develop “Extracurricular Manual” which could systematise the conduct of all the activities. This shall serve as a reference of procedures and strategies to be followed by the staff.
3. In order to strengthen the implementation and to encourage more students to participate in extracurricular activities, it is imperative that it should be included in the strategic plan and operational plan of each faculty.
4. Extracurricular activities should be a part of the curriculum especially in the foundation programme. This can be imbedded in the Academic Skills and General English Language modules.
5. The college should develop longitudinal procedure of monitoring the students who were active in extracurricular and how it impacted their future opportunities and careers for further scholarships or education.



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