

Sustainability of Extension Services in Higher Education: A Study of the Hospitality Management Program at EARIST, Manila

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Abstract:

Extension services play a vital role in higher education, particularly in applied disciplines like Hospitality Management where experiential learning and community involvement are integral. This study examined the sustainability of extension services in the Hospitality Management Program of Eulogio “Amang” Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST), Manila. A mixed-methods design was employed, combining both quantitative and qualitative approaches to provide a well-rounded understanding. The quantitative part used a 5-point Likert scale survey with 100 respondents, including students and community residents, and data were analyzed using weighted mean and Independent Sample t-Test to compare group responses. The qualitative part gathered participants' insights, which revealed challenges such as resource limitations and monitoring gaps, along with benefits like livelihood opportunities and stronger community ties.

The study found that the Hospitality Management Extension Services are effective and relevant. They support program goals and promote sustainability, although feedback mechanisms require further improvement. Students and residents expressed similar views on effectiveness, but residents rated feedback more positively, indicating the need for more inclusive and responsive communication channels. Participants also reported moderate challenges. Some sessions focused more on theory than practice, while others faced scheduling conflicts or activities that did not fully align with community needs, limiting practical application. Qualitative findings supported these results, showing that the program develops skills, enhances livelihood opportunities, and strengthens community ties. However, participants emphasized consistent follow-up, practical activities, and systematic feedback as essential to ensuring long-term impact and sustainability.

Keywords:

Sustainability, Extension Services, Higher Education, Hospitality Management, Community Engagement.