

The university has an important role to provide venues for students to expand intellectual abilities and capacities as well as promote their socio-emotional and relational readiness for the rapid changes in technology, and create opportunities where personal and character-building programs prepare them for the highly volatile future in the world of work. The whole university system should be able to create a campus experience that has lasting effects on the students' after-class endeavors.

In the hope to influence development of leadership skills, knowledge and values in the realm of student development, the University of Santo Tomas has conducted three researches that delve into the heart of student development: the student organizations, their advisers, and the administrators.

May the practitioners and professionals in student affairs who work in the Philippines and in Asia-Pacific get inspiration and determination to immortalize our collective learning and experiences and produce more researches in the field closest to our hearts.

With jubilation and appreciation of the work well done, congratulations UST!

– MA. PAQUITA DIONGON-BONNET, Ph.D.

*Immediate Past National President, Philippine Association of Administrators of Student Affairs  
Director, De La Salle University - Office for Career & Counseling Services*

There was a time when “student affairs” did not constitute a separate function but was simply an integral part of the functions of the teacher. It is no longer so today. “Student affairs” is now one of the specialized areas in school management, an area which has acquired almost as much importance as the academic side of schooling.

This book charts the organizational history and provides a general profile of University-wide Student Organizations (USOs). It also describes the perceptions of faculty about their role as advisers and their self-evaluations regarding selected aspects of organization advising. Furthermore, it presents the views of administrators on student activities, student organizations, student leaders, and faculty advisers.

Effective management of “student affairs” requires a good understanding of the institutional background and historical context in which it evolved. This book is an important contribution to that understanding and will, no doubt, serve as a valuable reference for the management of schools, today and for the days to come.

– ARMANDO F. DE JESUS, Ph.D.

*Former Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs  
Former Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Letters  
University of Santo Tomas*

The research team has revealed the depth and height of the work, dedication, and commitment that student affairs entails and has clearly pointed out the seriousness and the vital roles of administrators and advisers in attaining their ultimate goal – to ensure the holistic development of students.

It is in this context that I have seen the value of the three studies in this book. As student affairs practitioners and educators, we can all learn from what the research outputs have imparted to us, and from these learnings, we act on what we feel is necessary to fulfill our mandate: to deliver student services efficiently and effectively.

– HENRY G. MAGAT, Ed.D.

*President, Philippine Association of Campus Student Advisers (PACSA)  
Dean, Jose Rizal University - College of Liberal Arts, Criminology, and Education*



University of Santo Tomas  
Office for Student Affairs



Research Center on Culture,  
Education & Social Issues



University of Santo Tomas  
Publishing House

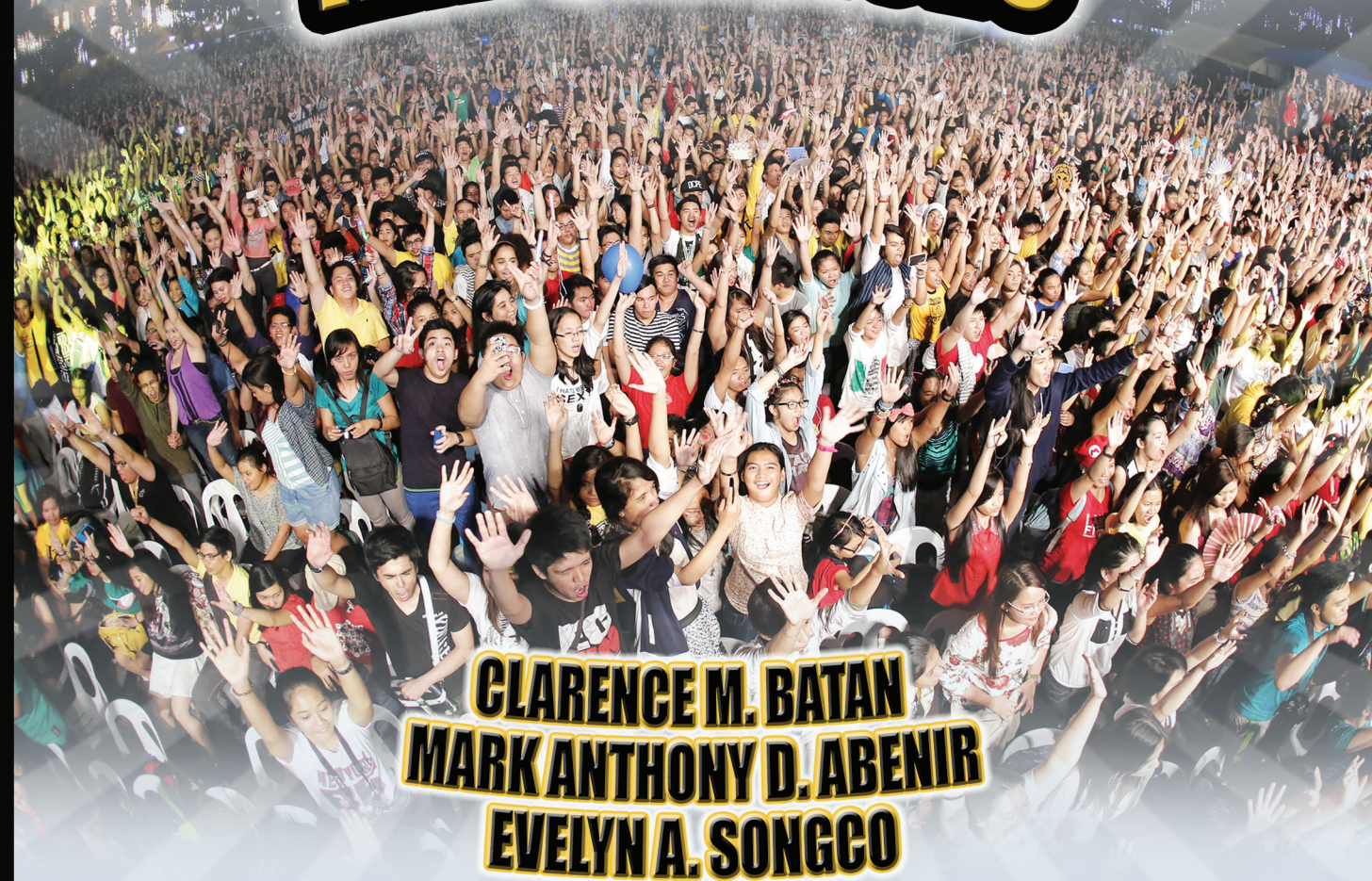
ISBN 978-971-506-757-7



RESEARCHING STUDENT AFFAIRS AND SERVICES

BATAN • ABENIR • SONGCO

# RESEARCHING STUDENT AFFAIRS AND SERVICES



**CLARENCE M. BATAN**  
**MARK ANTHONY D. ABENIR**  
**EVELYN A. SONGCO**



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS PUBLISHING HOUSE





# **RESEARCHING STUDENT AFFAIRS AND SERVICES (SAS)**

Property of UST  
Do Not Reproduce



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS  
PUBLISHING HOUSE

Published by  
**the University of Santo Tomas Publishing House**  
Beato Angelico Building  
España, Manila 1015 Philippines  
Telefax: (63-2) 731-3522 • Tel. Nos. 406-1611 Loc. 8252/8278  
E-mail: publishing@mn1.ust.edu.ph

Copyright © 2015 by UST Office for Student Affairs &  
UST Research Center on Culture, Education & Social Issues  
Batan, Clarence M.; Abenir, Mark Anthony D.; Songco, Evelyn A.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. No portion of this book may be  
copied in any form or by any means—mechanical, graphic,  
photocopying, or stored in a database or any retrieval system—  
without a written permission from the copyright owners.

Cover and book design by Bong Bundang  
Cover photo by Mr. Paul Allyson R. Quiambao

Recommended entry:

Researching student affairs and services (SAS) : the case of the University of  
Santo Tomas, Manila.

—Manila : University of Santo Tomas Publishing House, c2015.  
xii, 134 pp.; 25.4 cm.

ISBN 978-971-506-757-7

1. Student affairs services -- University of Santo Tomas, Manila --  
Case studies. 2. Student affairs administrators -- University of Santo Tomas, Manila

LG207 .R311 2015

---

## RESEARCH IN STUDENT AFFAIRS AND SERVICES (SAS) MATTERS

---

This book contains the outputs of a three-year collaborative research project between the Office for Student Affairs (OSA) and the Research Center on Culture, Education and Social Issues–Youth Studies Cluster (RCCESI-YSC). Believing in the vital importance of student affairs and services (SAS) in ensuring the academic and life success of the students, both the OSA and the RCCESI-YSC embarked on these three researches to enhance the direction of student activities in the University of Santo Tomas.

An important area in student affairs is the campus life of the students. The experiences of the students in the campus help shape their values and attitudes, as well as their social and leadership skills. Campus life is greatly influenced by student organizations and activities, and researchers abroad have shown that student engagement in student organizations, volunteer work, sports, and other extra-curricular activities help students perform better in class. In turn, these students have greater tendency to establish a stronger connection with the school (Dale, 2005; Delaine, 2010; LaNasa, 2007 & Peck 2011).

This book contains studies that will help readers assess the profile of the student organizations and faculty organization advisers of the University of Santo Tomas. It will also help the readers see how administrators perceive student organizations, student activities, and faculty advisers. These researches have affected the policy formulation in UST. Among the results of the studies contained in this book are the changes introduced by the OSA in granting recognition to student organizations; in approving student activities, specifically pageants and concerts; and in helping students review their organizational structures.

The impact of these researches on the OSA practices and policy formulation has encouraged the same office to continue engaging in research. The importance





of research in student affairs work and practices has become evident through these studies. I am sure that student affairs practitioners in the Philippines can draw inspiration from reading this work. Student affairs practitioners can readily see the importance of research in our field. Considering the diverse areas of student affairs and services, and the challenges student affairs practitioners face, I encourage my colleagues in student affairs practice to engage in research and enjoy the results of research-based decisions and directions.

This is the first-ever research book produced in the field of student affairs and services in the Philippines. I hope that student affairs practitioners will find this humble contribution to the field of student affairs insightful and useful.

**EVELYN A. SONGCO, PhD**

*Assistant to the Rector for Student Affairs  
University of Santo Tomas, Manila*

*National President  
Philippine Association of Administrators of  
Student Affairs*

## References

- Dale, P.A. & Drake, T.M. (2005). Connecting academic and student affairs to enhance student learning and success. *New Directions for Community Colleges*, 131, 54-61.
- Delaine, D.A., Seif, Naraghi, S.B., Al-Haque, Wojewoda, N., Meninato, Y. & Deboer, J. (2010). Student involvement as a vehicle to empowerment: A case study of the student platform for engineering education development. *European Journal of Engineering Education*, 35(4), 367-378.
- LaNasa, S.N., Olson, E. & Alleman, N. (2007). The impact on on-campus growth on first year student engagement and success. *Research in Higher Education*, 48(8).
- Peck, A. (2011). In Practice: Peer involvement advisors improve first-year student engagement and retention. *About Campus*, 16(3), 22-25.

---

## COLLABORATING HELPS

---

**M**y warmest congratulations to the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) for publishing a book on the threefold facets of student organizations: the students, the faculty, and the administrators. This book, a result of partnership between the OSA and Research Center on Culture, Education, and Social Issues (RCCESI), is an important milestone in the field of student management. The articulation of this undertaking on student affairs demonstrates how the OSA makes use of research as basis of policy formulation to better serve the Thomasian community.



We at RCCESI, through the Youth Studies Cluster, greatly appreciate this chance to be engaged in a multi-part undertaking with OSA, whose programs and services cater to the 43,000-strong Thomasian studentry. Such a sheer student population provides a fertile and multi-faceted research environment, one which academicians can certainly learn a lot from.

To the friends of UST who are likewise engaged in the practice of student affairs in their respective institutions, our universities and colleges have been known and have established themselves in teaching. Now is the best time to engage in research and fulfill a core mandate of institutions of higher learning. In collaboration with our student affairs offices, let us spread our research wings, humbly flying low among the students and eventually soaring together with research as the guiding spirit to attain the true light of education.

**ARLEN A. ANCHETA, PhD**

*Director*

*Research Center on Culture, Education,  
and Social Issues (RCCESI)*

*University of Santo Tomas*



---

## THE RESEARCH TEAM

---

### Researchers



#### **CLARENCE M. BATAN, PhD**

Clarence M. Batan, PhD, is a youth sociologist, teaching at the Faculty of Arts and Letters, Ecclesiastical Faculty of Philosophy and the Graduate School, University of Santo Tomas. He is the Youth Studies Cluster Chair of the RCCESI. For more information, visit [www.clarencebatan.com](http://www.clarencebatan.com).

#### **MARK ANTHONY D. ABENIR, DSD**

Mark Anthony D. Abenir, DSD, is a trained social development specialist teaching at the Faculty of Arts and Letters, College of Rehabilitation Sciences and the Ecclesiastical Faculty of Philosophy, University of Santo Tomas. He is a research associate of the RCCESI, working under the Youth Studies Cluster.



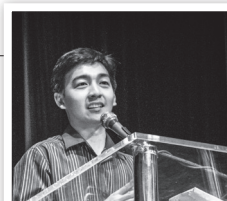
#### **EVELYN A. SONGCO, PhD**

Evelyn A. Songco, PhD, is a student affairs practitioner, National President of the Philippine Association of Administrators of Student Affairs (PAASA), and Country Representative to the Asia Pacific Student Services Association (APSSA) from 2004-2006. She is also a specialist in development education, a professor of history, a research associate of the RCCESI, working under the Youth Studies Cluster, and has served as Assistant to the Rector for Student Affairs of the University of Santo Tomas from 1990-2006 and 2010-present.

### Language Editor

#### **PHILIPPE JOSE S. HERNANDEZ, MEng**

Philippe Jose S. Hernandez, MEng, is an English language instructor at the Faculty of Engineering, College of Education and Faculty of Arts and Letters, University of Santo Tomas. He has served as an executive and/or language editor of various publications inside and outside UST. He was a student leader and has been a faculty adviser and trainer of organizations in the University.



---

## RESEARCH IN STUDENT AFFAIRS PRACTICE

---

Every higher education institution (HEI) is a dynamic interface among various stakeholders, such as the administrators, faculty, support staff, parents, students, and alumni. Their coming together creates a system where each of the stakeholders behaves as an active component. At the center of these components are the students, whose development is the object of all the other components. Their ability to achieve academic and life success is the concern of intricate designs of academic and non-academic experiences and services that exist in every HEI.

The Student Affairs and Services (SAS) of every HEI has been tasked to ensure that meaningful non-academic experiences and efficient services are abundantly available, to provide every student various opportunities for his/her total development (CHED, 2006; CHED, 2013).

In this area, the student organizations play an important role in providing meaningful non-academic experiences in the campus and beyond. With the guidance of their advisers, they organize activities that are supportive of the mission and vision of the college or university. They enjoy the trust and confidence of the administrators, the faculty members, the students, and the support staff. Closely monitored by the Office for Student Affairs (OSA), the student organizations help create a campus life that nurtures the students' physical, socio-cultural, political, technological, spiritual, and moral development. Here, the student leaders unleash their passion for advocacy and service; thus, helping create a campus culture distinct to their college or university.

The three studies featured in this book give a clear picture of how these student organizations are placed "in the bigger landscape of student life" in UST. These three studies captured the voices of the student leaders, the faculty advisers, and the administrators as they look at the student organizations and student activities from their own lenses.

It is from this perspective that the University of Santo Tomas Office for Student Affairs (UST OSA) deserves commendation for producing this book. This work is a good indication of how the UST OSA seriously considers its role in providing evidence-based programs and projects to ensure the holistic development of students.

The book is also an invitation for other universities and colleges to engage in student affairs research, something that, I fear, is sorely lacking in student affairs work in the Philippines for many reasons. I hope that the UST OSA's research endeavors will inspire other OSAs to follow suit.

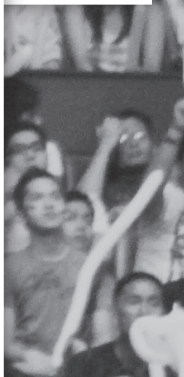
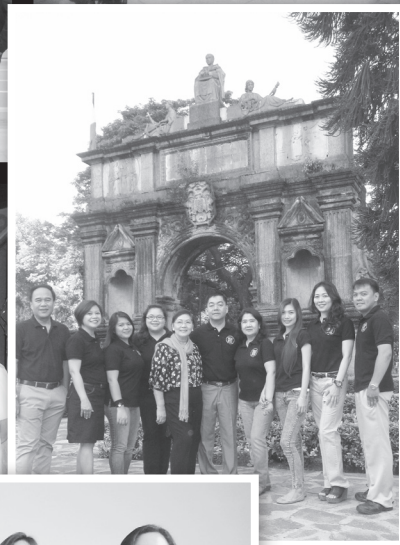


**BELLA M. VILLANUEVA, PhD**

*Former Country Representative, Asia Pacific Student  
Services Association (APSSA)*

*Professor, Center for Teacher Education, Roosevelt College  
Foundation*





---

# CONTENTS

---

Research in Student Affairs and Services (SAS) Matters /iii
Collaborating Helps /v
The Research Team /vi
Foreword: Research in Student Affairs Practice /vii
Introduction: A Glimpse into this Work /xi
Chapter 1: Profiling University-wide Student Organizations /1
Points for Reflection /43
About the Rubric /44
Methods for Use /44
Organization Assessment Rubric /45
Chapter 2: “Becoming” and “Being” Faculty Advisers /53
Points for Reflection /82
About the Rubric /83
Methods for Use /83
Faculty Advisers Assessment Rubric /84
Chapter 3: Student Affairs and Campus Life from the Perspectives of Administrators /89
Points for Reflection /118
About the Rubric /118
Methods for Use /118
Administrator’s Assessment Rubric /119
Synthesis: How They All Come Together /125
Acknowledgments /133