

MURC 2019

Presentation ID: 055

Presentation Format: Poster Presentation3

Presentation Title: Campus Community Participation in Undergraduate Students at UBC Vancouver

Community participation is important to the development and well-being of university students as well as wider Canadian society which benefits from their engagement. There is limited published research regarding university students' community participation (either on- or off-campus), particularly in a Canadian context. To help address this knowledge deficit, this study examines levels and types of on- and off-campus community participation (OOCCP) among undergraduate students at UBC Vancouver. For the purpose of this study, OOCCP is defined as encompassing social clubs, community service/volunteering, sports/recreation organizations, religious organizations, political activities (including voting on- and off-campus), and work and learning program experience (including community service learning, co-op, internships, and part-time paid employment such as in the food and service industry). The study also examines the positive (i.e., altruistic tendencies) and negative factors (i.e., lack of time and/or transportation) that influence participation, and whether OOCCP is related to life satisfaction. The research is informed by the concept of social capital, the total of an individual's social connections in formal (e.g., organizations) and informal (e.g., friends and family) networks. From a sample of 63 undergraduate UBC students, who completed a self-administered survey, statistical analyses revealed that although altruistic tendencies, and lack of time and transportation partially predicted OOCCP, on- and off-campus community participation was not a significant predictor of life satisfaction. These findings may reflect that other important factors (e.g., level of interest, knowledge of opportunities, socioeconomic status, academic performance) may influence OOCCP and life satisfaction beyond those included in this analysis.

Commented [Office1]: Consider rewording this sentence. I don't think you need the portion that states that community participation benefits Canadian society as a whole since that is a given. I think the focus here is the impact of community work the development and well-being of university students participating in it. Also, since you are making an assumption here, it may be worth citing a study that shows the impact of community participation to university students or to make the statement more neutral (e.g. "Community participation is valued by universities as crucial to the development and well-being of university students.").

Commented [Office2]: Thank you for spelling out your acronyms!!!

Commented [Office3]: Great discussion of limitations and variables.

Themes:

Check (highlight) the most applicable theme according to the abstract.

<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation and Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Health and Wellness	<input type="checkbox"/> Culture and Society	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability and Conservation
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Comments:

This seems like a great study and will definitely speak to a generalist audience, most of whom are immersed in a higher education setting. Just consider rewording your introduction (refer to the comments for clarity).