

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract: Leadership skills play a significant role in the development of undergraduate students in higher education. Principally, taking on leadership roles encourages personal well-being, setting goal, social networking and develop conflict resolution skills in different situation. The results indicate that good leadership effects not only personal growth, but also valuable for job career and being a vital part of in today's society. This article highlights leadership style in numerous literature reviews, real-world examples and at the same time provides a strong basic outlines related to leadership skills and answers that "Why leadership skills are important for undergraduate students and how to enhance these skills in higher education".

Key words: Leader skills, personal growth, education, job career, social networking, setting goal, conflict resolution.

Introduction

In today's globalized world, the abilities make for more and more opportunities to explore the world. For undergraduate students there are numerous abilities that play a crucial role in life, especially leadership skills. First of all, leadership skills can be foundation of personal development. This can be seen in choosing an exact future career, working with team, enhance communication style, problem-solving skills and overall, holding a good life. More specifically, It is important to define leadership as the power of a participant in social communication, which is considered in making group decisions, determining the direction and nature of community activities [1]. Furthermore, leaders should be an ideal person and perfect model in a group. By leadership skills not only leaders grow in a wide range of ways, but also a whole group enhance solidly. It leads to collective leadership, which is to develop the leadership skills of all members of the group namely [2]. In this article, numerous strategies will be illustrated, some results will be explored and indeed the development of leadership skills will be obtained.

Literature review

It is clear that young people, especially students are raised as knowledgeable persons in their own society. However, day by day unemployment rate career challenges increase even the number of graduated students raise. The global youth unemployment rate is 13% between the ages 15-24 years ([World Economic Forum], 2024). There are several factors can be seen. To overcome such kind of problems, students must possess leadership skills to solve problems and make decisions about their career and role in the society. Moreover, employers usually search for

applicants who have a bachelor's degree and a wide range of leadership skills that will come in a work [3]. There are several studies highlighted the impact of leadership skills on student's career and personal well-being.

Leadership skills:

For instance, according to Smith et al (2021) leadership skills play a vital role in personal growth, they promote self-awareness, critical thinking and resilience [4]. They observed some activities or trainings which associated with leadership lead to better confidence, help to broaden their horizon and give the opportunities to resist challenges. However, a study by Johnson and Lee (2023) demonstrates that achieving a higher GPA come from possessing abilities as leaders [5]. In addition, it includes time management, collaboration, problem –solving of which a higher marks based on.

During education, students need to several leadership skills in order to gain knowledge. Ruben and Gigliotti (2019) presented the important relation and impact of leadership and communication each other [6]. Indeed, communication with others effectively is one of the important skills that come in useful. Therefore, they offered how social sides influence to developing leadership skills. Additionally, effective leaders are as well as effective communicators. More specifically, sharing opinions with others, discussing a situation and being a good speaker or listener among team are provided by communication skills. Next one is collaboration which involves several team works, or project works in higher education. In the study conducted by Wang et al (2021), they emphasized to collaboration specially [7]. While strong leadership skills enable students to work with group and with peers as well, students should know how to assess to a problem, to express opinions or to find a solution. If students own these abilities, they can establish problem-solving and decision-making skills within themselves. By fostering these skills during education, students not only enhance their knowledge and academic performance but also perfect life and successful career are guaranteed.

Ultimately, in addition to academic benefits, students who have leadership skills can achieve more accomplishment rather than ordinary students. Even though others are knowledgeable or intelligent, leader students will be more dominant compared with others. Because of leadership skills such as good communication, networking, conflict resolution, having ability to prove themselves and self-confidence.

Methodology

The aim of this literature review to analyze various papers and synthesize the importance of leadership skills in higher education for undergraduate students. During this research, several academic articles, books and papers have been reviewed by author written in different years respectively. This literature search was conducted through databases such as Google scholar and Google in order to gather basic outlines and information associated with this topic. In detail, during searching, “leadership skills in higher education”, “the importance of leadership skills”, “leadership development” and included keywords regarding all leadership skills such as conflict resolution, networking, critical thinking, communication and as well as collaboration are used widely. During research, each skill was explored in detail and their importance was highlighted based on the opinions provided by each author.

According to Jenkins and Krouse (2023) various leadership competencies offered the significant impact in successful education in institutions [8]. And criticize how students success in academic institutions with numerous skills which are played fundamental role. Another perspective was considered by Baker and Wright (2024) is about the relationship between leadership skills and academic outcomes [9]. Additionally, development of these skills can definitely lead to success in higher education.

Findings and discussion

The findings of this study illustrates that leadership skills can be the most important factor to achieve success or all other development and well-being not only in education but also in personal life. As a consequence, leadership skills approached as highly valuable for students and they can be key point in advancement. The analysis revealed by Smith et al (2021) showed that leadership skills are valuable in overall well-being including vital abilities which are very useful to develop personal skills [10]. Similarly, Jenkins and Krouse (2023) suggest that academic outcomes in higher education originate from leadership skills are integral part of them [11]. In addition, other research papers present the significance of leadership skills thoroughly.

Finally, this literature also points each of the leadership skills have own role such as collaboration and networking provide a better result compared with independent study or resilience is emphasized another crucial key in education especially, during learning an exact subject or language. In a word, all leadership skills are important and has place in the curriculum in order to get better result namely good GPA scores and apply them in future career and personal development meanwhile.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study indicates that the critical role of leadership skills in higher education for undergraduate students and direct them to successful future career. By integrating all skills together, advancement in education can appear. The most crucial things that by possessing these skills and applying them during education and life ensure leaders can be an important part of society and they contribute their efficient deeds to humanity. All in all, it starts with personal enhancement and then effects people around them in a positive way, at the end leadership skills play a crucial role in society such as increasing of employment rate or human's qualification.

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