

## Chapter 34

# Creative Independent Students' Framework: The Road to Sustainable University Development

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### Abstract

Every higher learning institution in Malaysia has its own faculty organization to get students involve in various activities. Proper management of the club organization and active students' involvement can give a significant list of benefits to the students. However, students' development in club and organization seems to be neglected since academic performance is the priority. Thus, students tend to concentrate on academic matters instead of joining club activities. This scenario consequently limits the students' leadership and interpersonal skills which are crucial for job competency. Therefore, one potential solution to this problem is to introduce a creative independent students' framework for a sustainable university development. The proposed framework is based on the effective organizational charts and diagrams which practice the concept of supply chain management in every task and position. Each position needs to follow through every step of the process to ensure the task goes efficiently to achieve the required objectives. The objectives are to; i) manage students' activities efficiently ii) promote active interaction among all students iii) increase leadership and skills through working environment exposure, and iv) produce a systematic students' portfolio for the usage of faculty and university. The uniqueness of the proposed framework is that it could provide a platform for students to contribute to faculty and university in terms of quality management and preparation of students' profile record and significantly reduce working loads of both academic and administration staff. Furthermore, it develops an effective and standalone students' organization and can be implemented in all faculties nationwide.

### Introduction

One of the goals of higher learning institution is to prepare students with interpersonal skills and job qualification. Literature has revealed that the involvement of students in clubs or organization can give a significant list of benefits to the students (Haber and buckley, 2015). As mentioned by Foubert and Grainger (2006), students who actively involved in students organization would have greater skill development.

According to Kuk and Banning (2010), student organizations can be used as opportunities for students to contribute to universities experiences. However researcher has not given adequate attention on how students can contribute to university through students organization. Therefore this paper will introduce a creative independent students' framework that could be beneficial for both students and university development.

### The Functional Framework

The proposed framework is based on the effective organizational charts and diagrams which practice the concept of supply chain management in every task and position. Figure 1 shows the complete innovation of the functional framework that could be used in any student organizations at university level.

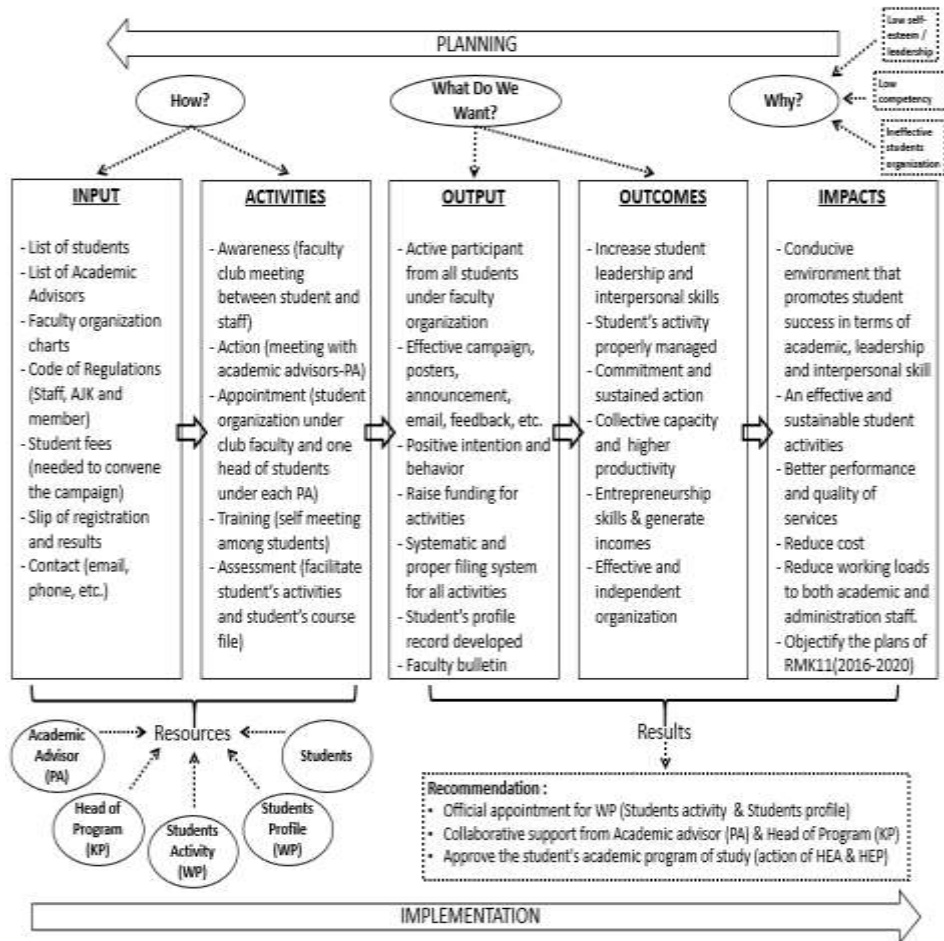


Fig. 1 Independent Students' Framework

From the framework, it is suggested that higher education institution should focus on the strategic planning and make use of available resources to generate the possible outcomes. Faculty or student organization advisors might identify the output and outcomes prior to the beginning of the term. Four main criteria should be emphasized which are; 1) efficient activities, 2) active interaction among students, 3) true leadership and skills through working environment exposure, and 4) a systematic students' portfolio. The framework should be able to nurture the crucial knowledge and skills that most university students should possess in order to be competitive in the global workplace.

### Conclusion

An effective student organization could be used as platform for students to contribute to the development of university. A functional organizations allow students to take on responsibilities or challenges to lead and make a difference in the university and provide students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to be a good leader.

### References

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