



اَوْنُوْرَسِيْتِي تِيْكَوْلُوْرِيْن مَارَا  
UNIVERSITI  
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MARA

**BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO STUDENTS IN UiTM  
SARAWAK**

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## Abstract

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This study aimed to find out the benefits students gained from taking part in community engagement. Community engagement also known as service learning organized by the education institutional to the communities. The benefits dimensions were career skills, diversity skills, interpersonal skills and civic skills. The objectives of this study was to identify the level of career skills, diversity skills, interpersonal skills and civics skills, before and after community engagement among students of UiTM Sarawak. The findings showed that there are positive relationship earned from before and after community engagement with career skills, diversity skills, interpersonal skills and civic skills.. Hence, review on how community engagement reacts to students and simply affect their ideas. Thus, it will also explain frankly every possible item that present in certain manners.

Besides, it also elaborates the future intention and also overall expression toward the community engagement. This is important to explore the possible improvement and planning for future uses.

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

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### **1.0 Introduction**

The following sections provide background of the study, problem statement, research objectives, and research questions, scope of study and definitions of terms.

### **1.1 Background**

Community engagement also known as service learning organized by the education institutional to the communities (Civic Literacy Project 2002) are lightly give extra advantage to students. Universities all around the world sought to articulate the nature of education they offer to their students through a description of the generic qualities and skills their graduates possess. (Barrie, 2004). According to Hedin (1989), community service provide the critical missing link for many students, an opportunity to apply academic learning for real human and also make the knowledge gained useable in one's thinking beyond the situation in which the learning occurred. Community engagement help to provide students with the motivation necessary to put forth effort in academics, it therefore give them more opportunities to integrate and elaborate on their knowledge and soft skills, and it increases the likelihood of transferring theoretical knowledge to actual practice.

In an article written by Shelley Billig (2000), the brief research indicated that community engagement can:

1. increase students' personal, interpersonal and social development (Billig, 2000)
2. increase motivation, student engagement, and school attendance (Billig, 2000)

## Chapter 2

### Literature review

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#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter reviews the theories that related to community engagement as well as the benefits earn by the students in UiTM Sarawak. In addition, it explains this topic to enhance the understanding. Then, the link between the independent variables and dependant variables will be discussed. Finally, the proposed conceptual framework of this study is elaborated.

#### **2.2 Community Engagement**

##### **2.2.1 The Definition of Community Engagement**

In early 1970s, the definition of volunteering was enhanced to include an additional dimension: volunteer work is both unremunerated and un-coerced, and in 1978 definition from Ellis and Noyes I their first edition of *By the People*, “to volunteer is to choose to act in recognition of a need, with an attitude of social responsibility and without concern for monetary profit, going beyond what is necessary to one’s physical well-being. (Ellis, S.J, Noyes, & K.H, 1978). Community engagement is to prepare individual to become a responsible, active citizen, and also increases awareness of the multiple needs of the community, sense of moral obligation to help those less fortunate and the desire to make a community a better place. As the non- profit sector struggles to meet increasing demands with decreasing resources, volunteerism has become extremely important.