

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

A B S T R A C T

In the 1970's, the La Salle Brothers had the distinct reputation of being called the "evangelizers" of young, confused minds. With the Brothers leading and in cooperation and coordination with the different sectors of the academe, De La Salle University was able to establish a warm Christian atmosphere within the campus. At present, the question is: "Do the Christian Brothers still have the same charismatic power in influencing the programs and activities of the university as in the past?" This study attempted to answer this crucial question.

The research done basically attempted to identify the perceptions of administrators and the faculty on the roles of the Christian Brothers in campus along three dimensions. These dimensions were the following:

- (1) *Providing a Christian orientation to the academic curricula of the university.*
- (2) *Developing the Christian atmosphere of the university; and*
- (3) *Re-orienting the attitudes of the members of the university towards a dynamic social consciousness.*

The study was descriptive in design and data were gathered through the use of an institutional-wide survey questionnaire that was administered among 346 administrators and faculty from the different colleges. Ten (10) focused interviews with the same population to validate the results obtained from the survey questionnaire were also conducted by the researchers to gain more in-depth and substantive data on the perceptions of the respondents on the Brothers.

Among the many significant findings of the study were that respondents did not perceive the influence of the Brothers in the dimensions specified above. Moreover, the data obtained revealed that there is a strong need for the Brothers to make their presence felt within the university, especially among the administrators and faculty as collaborators in the formation and education of the students.