

ABSTRACT

Name of Institution: De La Salle University-Dasmariñas
Address : Bagong Bayan, Dasmariñas, Cavite
TITLE : An Analysis of the Administrative
Cases and Decisions of De La Salle
University-Dasmariñas Disciplinary
Board, Dasmariñas, Cavite 1993-1996
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OBJECTIVE:

The study was made to enlighten the students about how the Discipline Board of DLSU-Dasmariñas discharges its duties.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE:

This study focuses mainly on the analysis of the administrative disciplinary cases handled by the Discipline Board of DLSU-Dasmariñas, Cavite and their implications to student discipline during the school years 1993-1994, 1994-1995, 1995-1996.

METHODOLOGY:

This study made use of documentary analysis.

MAJOR FINDINGS:

1. The Composition of the Discipline Board

The Discipline Board as mandated by the Student Handbook shall be composed of the following: a member of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, who acts as chair, the Dean of the college to which the student charged belongs; and the President of the Supreme Student Council.

2. Appointment of the Members of the Board

The Student Handbook from school years 1993-1994, 1994-1995, 1995-1996 does not state who appoints the members of the Discipline Board except that Section 24.1.4 of those Handbooks provides that the Discipline Coordinator if the chairperson is unable to discharge his duty, shall be appointed by the Executive Vice President.

3. Qualifications of the Members of the Board

Except for the chairman of the Board, who must be a lawyer, the Student Handbooks provide no other qualifications for the other two members. The Dean of the College and the President of the Supreme Student Council are automatic members.

4. The Powers and Functions of the Board

The Board exercises jurisdiction over all major

offenses involving students.

5. The Process of Disciplinary Action

Students may avail of three types of procedures namely: Summary Proceeding, Preliminary or Informal Investigation and Formal Investigation.

6. Grounds for Disciplinary Administrative Sanction

Grounds for disciplinary administrative sanction include: Cheating, Vandalism, Possession of deadly weapon, Deliberate disruption of academic functions, Brawls, Inflicting physical injuries, Unauthorized collection of money, Acts of gross disrespect, Direct assault, Threatening another with infliction, Acts that malign the good name of the school, Stealing, Forgery, Gambling, Acts of subversion, Conviction of any criminal offense, Commission of a third minor offense and any similar or analogous acts.

7. Existing Laws, Rules, and Regulations for Private Schools

The 1992 Manual of Regulations for Private Schools mandates that schools shall have the inherent right to discipline their students and adopt and enforce rules and regulations.

8. Recorded Disciplinary Cases of Students.

There was a total of 36 recorded cases in violation

of DLSU-Dasmariñas rules on discipline from school year 1993-1994 to school year 1995-1996. Among the recorded offenses were: (a) Acts of gross disrespect; (b) Violating twice a minor offense; (c) Physical injury; (d) Vandalism; (e) Cheating; (f) Brawls; (g) Intoxication; (h) Commission of third minor offense; and Intentionally making false statement.

9. Discipline Board Decisions on Cases of Students

There were promulgated decisions by the Discipline Board of DLSU-Dasmariñas from 1993-1996. School year 1993-1994 has recorded 6 decisions and among them were four counts of 1 semester suspension and two counts of 7 days suspension. On the otherhand, school year 1994-1995 revealed that there were 11 promulgated decisions and among them were Vandalism, Violating twice a minor offense, Intoxication, Commission of third minor offense, Physical injury and Brawls. The penalty ranged from 3 days suspension to 1 school year suspension. School year 1995-1996 had the highest number of decided cases of students. The Disciplinary Board has recorded offenses such as: Gross disrespect, Vandalism, Violating twice a minor offense, and Intentionally making false statement. Decisions meted out ranged from 3 days suspension to 15 days suspension.

10. Implication of Disciplinary Board's Decisions Regarding the Cases of Students to the Administration of Student Discipline.

1. The 36 major offenses decided upon by the Discipline Board in the last three school years is remarkably low for it represents 0.007% of the total population of 46,742 in the last three years. It is, however revealed in the study that there was 0.04% violation growth rate every year. This gives the implication that student discipline is not going any better.
2. Although the Manual and the Student Handbook provide three categories of administrative sanctions such as suspension, exclusion and expulsion, the 36 major offenses and their decisions are confined only to either reprimand and suspension.

Conclusions

1. Decisions rendered by the school administrators of Discipline were technically conducted in bad faith.
2. The Discipline Board was created with a legal and moral bases.
3. High administrative standard necessarily entails strict discipline.

Recommendations

1. Higher authority in student discipline in De La Salle University-Dasmariñas should revise some existing provisions in the Student Handbook that are not clearly stated and/or add other statements regarding these which are missing but needed.
2. The members of academic community should consider discipline as education itself and therefore, should help the school administration instill this value by discussing this matter in their classes.
3. More research in this field shall be encouraged to pursue proper or acceptable values which include good discipline.