

Research on the Construction and Management Path of College Student Volunteer Service Teams in the New Era

Bingchen Chen, Mengyan Wang

Wenzhou Polytechnic, Wenzhou, Zhejiang, 325000, China

Abstract

In the context of the new era, volunteer service is an important symbol of social civilization and progress, garnering widespread attention from all sectors of society. Volunteer service activities, which bring warmth to others and contribute to society, fully embody ideals, love, kindness, and a sense of responsibility. They serve as a vivid reflection of people's faith, national strength, and the hope of the nation. As a crucial component of ideological and political education in higher education institutions, volunteer service should continuously evolve in alignment with the new era. The practice of volunteer service as a key form of contemporary civic engagement provides a significant opportunity for the development of college student volunteer initiatives. In recent years, the scale of college student volunteer teams has expanded, and their service areas have broadened, making them a vital force in advancing public welfare. However, due to various external factors, the construction and management of college student volunteer teams also face new challenges. This paper comprehensively analyzes the characteristics, significance, and challenges of college student volunteer teams in the new era, and proposes practical strategies based on the current development landscape to further promote the sustainable growth and advancement of volunteer service initiatives.

Keywords

New Era, College Student Volunteer Teams, Management Path.

1. Characteristics of College Student Volunteer Service

In the context of the new era, college student volunteer service has become an important social concept with distinct characteristics and values, as outlined in Table 1. First, college students engage in volunteer service primarily based on a spirit of voluntarism and selflessness. They are passionate about contributing to society and hope to make a meaningful impact through their actions. The purity of their motivations reflects their high moral standards and underscores the fundamental essence of volunteer service. Second, college student volunteer service covers a wide range of areas. Whether in community service, environmental protection, educational support, or cultural heritage preservation, college student volunteers are actively involved[1-3]. They select service projects based on their interests and professional expertise, allowing them to provide diverse forms of support for social development. This not only enriches the meaning of volunteer service but also ensures the overall quality of service initiatives. Third, college student volunteer teams are highly standardized and well-organized. By establishing volunteer service organizations or joining existing teams, they develop structured management and training systems. During volunteer activities, they strictly adhere to various regulations, ensuring the orderly execution of their work. This structured approach lays a solid foundation for the sustainable development of volunteer service.

Table 1. Characteristics of College Student Volunteer Service

Characteristics	Description
Purity of motivation	College students participate in voluntary service mainly based on voluntary and selfless spirit to contribute to society
The breadth of the field	Volunteer service covers community service, environmental protection, education, cultural heritage and other fields. College students can choose to participate according to their interests and expertise
Organizational normativity	The volunteer service team of college students is highly organized. Through unified training and management, the activities are ensured in an orderly manner, and the rights and interests of volunteers are protected in accordance with relevant laws and regulations

2. Importance of College Student Volunteer Service in the New Era

2.1. Guiding Students in Establishing Correct Values

College students are the backbone of national and social progress, and their cognitive development during this critical stage has a profound impact on their future growth. Volunteer service, which is inherently public-spirited and non-profit, revolves around promoting the volunteer spirit. Through volunteer activities, students integrate serving others and contributing to society with the realization of personal values. Engaging in acts of kindness nurtures their moral character, elevates their spiritual outlook, and fosters a sense of civic responsibility. Additionally, it aligns with the socialist view of honor and disgrace, enhancing students' moral standards and helping them establish a correct worldview, outlook on life, and values[3-4].

The youth volunteer movement has developed under the leadership of the Communist Party and the guidance of the Communist Youth League. Advancing volunteer service initiatives helps deepen students' understanding and support of the Party and the nation's core development philosophies. Through this subtle yet profound influence, students cultivate patriotism and a strong sense of national identity, ultimately growing into pillars of society who contribute to national prosperity and the revitalization of the nation.

2.2. Enhancing Students' Professional Skills

The service areas of college student volunteer activities continue to expand, encompassing rural poverty alleviation, urban community development, environmental protection, large-scale event support, and disaster relief efforts. These activities are closely integrated with broader social development goals, providing students with valuable hands-on experience that enhances their professional skills. By actively engaging in volunteer work, students gain deeper insights into their academic fields, bridging the gap between theory and practice. This dynamic interaction fosters enthusiasm and initiative in their professional studies.

Particularly in large-scale events and conferences, organizers often provide targeted training for volunteers in service content, principles, and etiquette. Through diverse and multifaceted training programs, college students continuously refine their skills, improve their service quality, and broaden their perspectives. By combining theoretical learning with practical application, students minimize the risk of learning being merely theoretical ("all talk and no action") and enhance the overall effectiveness of their volunteer efforts.

2.3. Assisting Universities in Management Work

As one of the core functions of universities, educational and academic management plays a crucial role in cultivating high-quality talent. In the context of rapid social development, higher education institutions must focus on enhancing students' learning, practical application, and

innovation capabilities. Strengthening practical education and comprehensively promoting quality education are essential to meeting societal demands for talent. Integrating college student volunteer service with academic practice provides an effective platform for students to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world settings. This approach not only facilitates the integration of theory and practice but also enhances the overall quality of university education. By incorporating the practical outcomes of volunteer service into academic activities, universities can enrich practical teaching components and improve faculty research levels. This integration allows for better instructional methods, skill-based training, and theoretical refinement, enhancing students' academic and practical abilities. Additionally, universities can introduce elective courses and lectures on volunteer service, fostering a campus culture that expands students' perspectives, aligns with societal trends, and inspires students to contribute to society. Ultimately, college student volunteer service enhances university education by closely linking theoretical and practical courses, improving student competencies, refining educational philosophies, and strengthening teaching quality[5-6].

3. Current Challenges in College Student Volunteer Team Development

3.1. Low Social Recognition

Despite the rapid development of volunteer service in China over the past decade, its social recognition among college students remains relatively low. While many students are registered as volunteers, their actual participation rates are not high, and the overall level of engagement in volunteer activities still needs improvement. More importantly, existing civic engagement initiatives have not fully incorporated existing volunteers and volunteer organizations. Some grassroots volunteer centers still perceive college student volunteers as low-cost labor, lacking awareness of the true value of volunteer service.

Due to such misconceptions, some volunteer service centers fail to integrate local volunteer organizations effectively, instead primarily recruiting volunteers from within administrative structures. However, these so-called "volunteers" often participate out of obligation rather than personal motivation, treating volunteer service merely as part of their assigned duties. This lack of intrinsic motivation among volunteers affects the sustainability and enthusiasm of college students' involvement in volunteer activities. Given students' academic and personal commitments, maintaining long-term engagement in volunteer service remains a challenge.

3.2. Imbalanced Team Structure

The effectiveness of college student volunteer service is influenced by numerous factors, with team structure being a significant concern. The composition of volunteer teams often lacks rationality, with disparities in members' backgrounds and skillsets. Since individuals have different problem-solving approaches and communication styles, these differences can affect team cohesion and collaboration.

Furthermore, while the diversity of professional backgrounds provides multiple perspectives for volunteer service, it can also hinder effective cooperation due to a lack of shared foundational knowledge. Such inconsistencies may reduce the overall efficiency of volunteer activities. To optimize volunteer team structure, universities should conduct thorough pre-selection and team-building efforts. By carefully selecting and pairing members, they can establish an efficient, professional, and compassionate college student volunteer team.

3.3. Limited Scope of Volunteer Projects

College student volunteer service serves as a vital platform for young students to realize their self-worth and enhance their skills while also acting as a bridge between students and society. However, the number of volunteer projects remains relatively limited, with most activities still

concentrated in traditional areas such as community service and educational support. The lack of innovation and diversity in volunteer projects makes it difficult to meet the varied needs of students.

Additionally, with rapid societal development and increasingly personalized student interests, volunteer service initiatives must continuously evolve. However, many existing projects lack foresight, offering repetitive and simplistic activities that fail to capture students' enthusiasm. To encourage greater student participation, universities must expand the range and number of volunteer projects, emphasize innovation, and introduce dynamic service initiatives that align with contemporary social needs. This approach will help sustain the long-term development of college student volunteer service.

4. Construction and Management Pathways for College Student Volunteer Service Teams in the New Era

4.1. Improving Institutional Regulations

As the saying goes, "Without rules, nothing can be accomplished." A well-established regulatory framework is essential for ensuring the smooth execution of volunteer service activities. Without strict regulations and operational mechanisms, volunteer service efforts may suffer from disorganization, inefficiency, and reduced overall effectiveness. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a comprehensive management system based on practical needs.

A practical approach is to elevate effective methods and policies from existing volunteer activities into formal organizational regulations. These rules should be strictly enforced, with clear procedures for addressing violations. Additionally, commonly used management practices can be integrated into the organization's operational framework and further refined to establish an innovative governance system for volunteer teams[7-9].

Furthermore, a well-structured feedback system should be implemented for university volunteer service programs. Since some volunteers are active members of the Communist Party admission process, their participation should be carefully documented, including time, location, activities, roles, and objectives. Assessment criteria should be developed to evaluate their engagement, making volunteer service an important criterion for progressing toward party membership. By enhancing institutional regulations, innovating management models, and gradually improving administrative standards, the overall efficiency and professionalism of college student volunteer service teams can be significantly advanced.

4.2. Developing a Scientific Growth Strategy

The development of college student volunteer teams depends on the active participation and valuable contributions of each member. Managers should encourage volunteers to provide feedback and engage in service activities, fostering a culture of broad participation.

The team's development goal is to use volunteer service as a platform to train successive generations of qualified volunteers and improve overall team quality. The guiding principle is to serve neither for personal gain nor profit but for the sake of genuine emotional connection and friendship. The developmental path lies in continuously innovating activity formats and content, exploring unique service initiatives, and refining regulations and management systems to build a strong and resilient volunteer team.

With "serving the people" as its core philosophy, college student volunteer teams should adhere to their distinctive development trajectory and strive toward their goals. The guiding principles and strategies function as levers that unlock greater potential, guiding the team toward long-term sustainability and impact.

4.3. Optimizing the Recruitment Process

Traditional recruitment methods are often inefficient and fail to attract a sufficient number of high-quality college student volunteers. In the new era, improving the quality of volunteer service activities requires a more strategic approach to the recruitment process.

To ensure that recruited volunteers possess the necessary qualities and skills, selection mechanisms should be enhanced, and regular training sessions should be implemented. The recruitment process should emphasize essential qualities such as responsibility, teamwork, and communication skills, ensuring that volunteers can quickly adapt to their roles.

Additionally, training programs should go beyond basic theoretical knowledge by incorporating skill-building exercises and safety awareness. This will help volunteers integrate seamlessly into their teams, enhance service effectiveness, and contribute to the long-term development of volunteer service initiatives.

4.4. Strengthening the Development of Learning-Oriented Organizations

To continuously improve service quality and foster innovation, volunteer teams must evolve into learning-oriented organizations. A lack of learning leads to stagnation in innovation and undermines the long-term sustainability of the service team. Therefore, volunteer organizations should establish structured learning mechanisms and uphold the principles of continuous education.

By prioritizing learning and ongoing improvement, volunteer teams can maintain their momentum and adaptability. Internal management should align training initiatives with the practical needs of the organization, consistently providing opportunities for members to develop their professional knowledge, communication skills, and problem-solving abilities (see Figure 1).

In a learning-oriented volunteer organization, the principle of education serves as a foundation for nurturing and shaping individuals. It fosters successive generations of volunteers who contribute to the growth and evolution of the team. Additionally, it facilitates the generation of new ideas and perspectives to address emerging challenges, ensuring that the team develops in an orderly, structured, and sustainable manner.

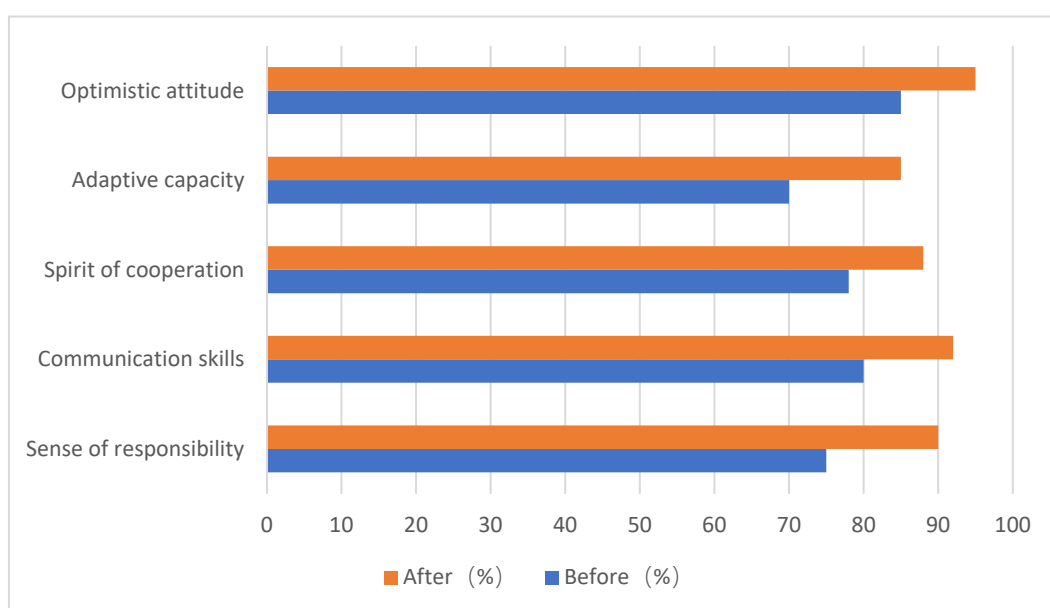


Figure 1. Changes Before and After Participation in Learning-Oriented Organization Development

5. Conclusion

In summary, volunteer service is a significant form of social practice for contemporary college students. It not only addresses the needs of disadvantaged social groups, strengthens social spiritual and cultural development, and fosters a positive and civilized campus atmosphere but also enhances students' overall competencies through the integration of theory and practice. Engaging in volunteer service effectively improves students' employability, professional skills, and practical abilities while shaping their perspectives on life, values, and the world[10].

However, the construction and management of volunteer service teams is a complex and systematic endeavor. Challenges are inevitable in practical implementation. Moving forward, continuous efforts from all stakeholders are essential to ensuring the sustainable and healthy development of college student volunteer teams, improving the quality and effectiveness of volunteer service, and maximizing its social and educational impact.

References

- [1] Brungart, D. S., Barrett, M., Russell, S., Archambault-Léger, V., and Clavier, O. (2020). Challenges in the development of a fully autonomous auditory training and testing system. *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 148:2714. doi: 10.1121/1.5147522
- [2] Bai, Y., Shan, R. L., Wu, Y. X., and Sun, P. F. (2021). Development and application of a new triaxial testing system for subzero rocks. *Geotech. Test. J.* 44:20200054. doi: 10.1520/GTJ20200054
- [3] Wang, G. (2021). Research on the development of safety education content in the field of physical education based on big data analysis. *J. Phys. Conf. Ser.* 1744:032243. doi: 10.1088/1742-6596/1744/3/032243
- [4] Marques, G., Drissi, N., Díez, I. D. L. T., Abajo, B., and Ouhbi, S. (2021). Impact of covid-19 on the psychological health of university students in Spain and their attitudes toward mobile mental health solutions. *Int. J. Med. Inform.* 147:104369. doi: 10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2020.104369
- [5] Wang, X. (2021). Research on the current situation of children's family safety education. *Reg. Educ. Res. Rev.* 3:29. doi: 10.32629/rerr.v3i1.264
- [6] Olyunin, Y., Rybakova, V., Likhacheva, E., and Nasonov, E. (2021). Pos1455-hpr relationship between psychological factors and measures of rheumatoid arthritis activity. *Ann. Rheum. Dis.* 80:1011.2-1011. doi: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2021-eular.760
- [7] Wu, K., Jin, X., and Wang, X. (2021). Determining university students' familiarity and understanding of laboratory safety knowledge a case study. *J. Chem. Educ.* 98, 434–438. doi: 10.1021/acs.jchemed.0c01142
- [8] Kulinski, D., Makashay, M. J., Dirks, C., Sheffield, B., and Brungart, D. S. (2020). Development of a tablet-based fit test system for military and austere environments. *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 148:2805. doi: 10.1121/1.5147810
- [9] Wang, W., Zhang, H., Lin, B., and Zhang, Z. (2021). Feasibility of a patient engagement and medication safety management program for older adults suffering cardiovascular disease in community settings. *Medicine* 100:e26125. doi: 10.1097/MD.00000000000026125
- [10] Wang, L., Zhen, Z., Wo, T., Jiang, B., Sun, H., and Long, X. (2020). A scalable operating system experiment platform supporting learning behavior analysis. *IEEE Trans. Educ.* 63, 232–239. doi: 10.1109/TE.2020.2975556