

Campus Security Practices' Assessment Of Philippine College Of Science And Technology

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Abstract: Security is everyone's responsibility and not the sole concern of the chief security and the members of the school security force. Even the toughest schools can be transformed into a safe and secured education facility given the proper orientation and training and development of the needed personal commitment. The objective of this study is to determine the campus security practices of Philippine College of Science and Technology (PhilCST). The study used descriptive-survey and data gathered was tabulated and statistically treated using weighted mean, one-way analysis of variance, frequency, percentage and ranking, and chi-square. As a result, campus security in PhilCST is fully implemented; campus security measures are employed along physical security, document security and personnel security; and there is a difference in the perceived level of implementation and campus security measures perceived along the three major areas of security in PhilCST. It was concluded that PhilCST is protected and that everyone who work, study or visit the campus feels security assurance; campus security measures are adopted by PhilCST for physical security, document security and personnel security; and lastly, the administrators, faculty members, staffs, students, and visitors of PhilCST have different views on the application of campus security and have different experience and familiarity on the campus security measures adopted by the school.

Keywords: campus security, campus security measures, security, security practices

1. Introduction

Security is an essential issue for every organization such as government, private, commercial or educational institution. Thus, educational institutions are not exempted from disruption, harm, and disturbances brought about by threats to security. Educational institutions practice or adopt campus security wherein administrators, faculty, staff, students, and everybody need to have a strong understanding of this concern. In line with this matter, campus security is one of the most pervasive issues that a campus must address aside from the many important responsibilities that are being brought out in running a university. Campus security is essential in order to keep employees and their belongings safe. Campuses have an individual security system designed to meet its unique needs. In New York City, before entering the campus, identification badges must be shown. In addition, key areas are monitored by a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) or an alarm system ("Campus & Residence", n.d.) However, despite the said campus security practices, educational institutions in United States (US) have been threatened and had actually experienced security breaches when a mass shooting at high school in Parkland, Florida wherein 17 were killed (Chuck, et al, 2018). In the Philippines, basic security practices are generally the same across schools: students must wear their identifications cards (IDs) at all times, visitors must register at the gate, and vehicles must have the appropriate stickers in order to enter the campus. Nevertheless, still campuses in the country experienced security problems. The stabbing and shooting incidents, hazing and bullying activities that occurred inside school premises in different parts of the country have put emphasis in campus security. These alarming events have pushed schools to submit their security system under a deeper and thorough analysis to avoid criticisms from public and private stakeholders. Furthermore, security should not be treated like a band-aid treatment. It should not be taken as simple temporary solution that needs frequent reapplication. It is not something that should be applied to solve a particular problem only. Developing a school security plan must not be made as a separate measure. It needs to be

totally integrated into the daily routine of the school (De Guzman, 2013). The researcher finds it valuable to determine the implemented campus security practices of Philippine College of Science and Technology for the purpose of offering a secure environment conducive for personal and academic development of administrators, faculty and non-teaching staff, students, and visitors. Further, the study aims to develop an action plan to enhance the campus security in PhilCST that will eliminate or minimize criminal opportunities, whenever possible, and encourage students and employees to be accountable for their own safety as well as the security of the others. This study will also consider the factors which are helpful in the management of safety and security in institutions of higher learning.

2. Review of Related Literature

There are number of identified variables that contribute to the overall student perception of safety on a college campus and a research study performed within the Virginia Community College system studied the perceptions of the students through identification of the type of crime and the location in the campus they feel least safe. The students chose not to report crimes or dangerous situations because they feel uncertain on how the campus security personnel will handle the information. The students' feeling is an indicator of lacking in supportive culture (Carrico, 2016). In fact, similar studies revealed the need of implementation of campus security. The study conducted by Jomarie Ann Rivera (2014) showed that the perception of students on campus safety is remarkably good; however, they believe that the institution still poses some danger to their safety and security. As such, a prudent and well-conceived security plan should be designed and there is a need for careful and measured planning for campus safety. Furthermore, a study conducted by Tenorio, et al (2014), stated the factors affecting the safety and security of a university such as the number of population, its location, and size of the campus. Also, the results suggest that there is a need to improve existing control mechanisms, adopt appropriate measures in specific threats, and encourage exchange of experiences on

campus security among educational institutions. A more effective alarm system as well as lighting in universities in the region should also be installed. Campus security managers and campus security management teams must also show commitment by utilizing the necessary resources and logistics to ensure safety and security.

3. Methodology

The study used descriptive-survey to determine the existing campus security practices of Philippine College of Science and Technology, a school located in Nalsian, Calasiao, Pangasinan. The respondents of the study were the administrators, faculty and non-teaching staff, students, and visitors of PhilCST administration. For the administrators, faculty & non-teaching staff and visitors, total enumeration was used. Hence, there were 23 administrators, 73 faculty & non-teaching staff and 150 visitor respondents. For the students, a sample of 206 students from the total population of 423 students enrolled during summer classes of School Year 2017-2018 were obtained using Slovin's formula and were randomly selected. First, the questionnaire was pre-tested to 20 personnel of University of Pangasinan and the result was treated using Cronbach's Alpha that determined its reliability. Computed result yielded .93 or 93 percent, hence, the instrument is reliable. A survey questionnaire and an interview guide were used in the study. Then, the researcher proceeded for the administration of the questionnaires to the different groups of respondents and personally administered and explained the instructions to the different groups of respondents and conducted an interview to selected respondents after answering the survey questionnaires. The researcher personally retrieved the questionnaires and data gathered were tabulated and statistically treated. The researcher then asked for the assistance of a statistician for the research to be reviewed, supervised and statistically computed. The interviews were also conducted among selected respondents to supplement the data of the study and transcribed through intelligent verbatim transcription since it provides a more readable transcript while staying true to the voice and intended meaning of the respondents. Lastly, data gathered was tabulated and statistically treated using weighted mean, one-way analysis of variance, frequency, percentage and ranking, and chi-square.

4. Results and Discussion

This section discusses the findings of the study, together with an in-depth analysis and interpretation of data gathered from the distribution of questionnaire that determines the campus security practices of Philippine College of Science and Technology.

4.1. Level of Implementation

The level of implementation of campus security in Philippine College of Science and Technology (PhilCST) is fully implemented with an Overall Weighted Mean (OWM) of 3.37. This suggests that campus security is available and extensively employed at PhilCST. It implies that the administrators, faculty members, staff, students, and visitors have strong understanding on the need for campus security.

The findings disconfirm the result of the study of Jomarie Ann Rivera (2014) wherein the perception of students on campus safety is remarkably good and they believe that the institution still poses some threat to their safety and security.

Moreover, this suggests that of the three area of security, document security got the highest overall mean rating of 3.47, followed by physical security with an overall mean rating of 3.36 while personnel security is the lowest with an overall mean of 3.29. Nevertheless, all fall under fully implemented. This suggests that PhilCST give more emphasis on the provisions of security for documents. The result can be attributed to the fact that documents can comprise secrets and other confidential data, such as product formulas or employees' personal information. If unauthorized persons gain access to these documents, it can lead to business loss or legal damages. Andrew Vincent (2015), owner of Shred On Site which is a mobile secure document shredding company, said that while cyber security in general will always be important, it should never become a priority at the expense of protecting those paper and other hard copy documents, too. Document security for property professionals with regards to hard copies of records will always be important. Similarly, of the four groups of respondents, visitors have rated the level of implementation of document security as the highest with a weighted mean 3.74 which is described as fully implemented. This is because visitors have personally experienced the toughness of protocol on accessing documents. For example, they do not have and cannot have full access to information regarding administrators, faculty member, students and staff because there is a need for an authorization and security clearance from designated personnel. Physical security is also fully implemented in PhilCST having an overall mean rating of 3.36. This suggests that physical security is available and employed at PhilCST. This implies that perimeter barriers and security personnel are visibly seen within the campus and that identification system is strictly followed for identity verification. A company needs administrative, technical, and physical control to run their organization smoothly. Administrative controls include construction, site location, emergency response and technical controls include guards while physical controls consist of intrusion alarms, perimeter security. Physical security's main objective is to protect the assets and facilities of the organization. So, the foremost responsibility of physical security is to safeguard employees since they are an important asset to the company. Their safety is the first priority followed by securing the facilities (Shaikh, 2018). Additionally, the administrators have the highest rating for the level of implementation of physical security with 3.65 weighted mean. This is due to the fact that they have moral responsibility over the safety and security of all persons entering the campus during day time and even night time. This is also supported by the two administrators who were interviewed who said that "During night time, every 3 hours, the guards will rove around classrooms and check the vicinities." And "I am aware about the security of the school in terms of the physical facilities; the school was protected by fences of course." On the other hand, the visitors rated the level of implementation of physical security as often implemented with a weighted mean of 3.05. This suggests that physical security is available in the campus but still can be improved. In terms of personnel security in PhilCST, it is fully implemented as perceived by the four groups of respondents with an overall weighted mean (OWM) of 3.29. This suggests that PhilCST has provisions for personnel security and are executed or used. This implies that the campus have not employed individuals who can eventually

be source of serious security harm or threats. According to Michael Cobb (n.d.), organizations need policies and procedures that cover personnel and security, not only at the point of hire, but also on an ongoing basis. The objective of these procedures is to lessen the chances of employing anyone who is likely to present or become a security concern and to manage the risk of existing staff and contractors looking to exploit their legitimate access to the premises, assets or data. Furthermore, the highest rating for personnel security aspect is given by the administrators with a weighted mean of 3.54. This suggests that the administrators confidently perceived personnel security in PhilCST as well applied and observed. This is due to the fact that it is them who personally screen, select, and hire applicants. They make sure that they will hire individuals who are competent enough and best suited to assist the school in achieving its mission and vision. On the other hand, visitors have given the lowest rating for the implementation of personnel security with a weighted mean of 3.05 described as often implemented. This suggests that visitors acknowledge the presence of provisions for personnel security in PhilCST but are unaware if it is fully applied. This is because visitors do not actually focused on the manner of selection of personnel in PhilCST but to their own agenda in visiting the school. The extent of knowledge possessed by the visitors on hiring personnel in PhilCST is limited due to the fact that selecting the personnel is not the main concern they are visiting the school but based on their own personal matters.

4.2. Difference on the Level of Implementation

The difference in the level of implementation of campus security as perceived by the four groups of respondents using One-Way Analysis of Variances. It suggests that the computed *f*-value is greater than the tabular value in the three major areas of security. With the computed *F*-value of 20.87 for physical security, 44.54 for document security and 62 for personnel security compared to the *F*-tabular value of 2.87 at 0.05 level of significance with 3 and 36 degrees of freedom, the null hypothesis is rejected in favor of the research hypothesis which suggests that there is a significant difference in the level of implementation of the three security areas as perceived by the four groups of respondents. Therefore, the perception made by the administrators, faculty and non-teaching staff, students, and visitors vary along the level of implementation of physical security, document security and personnel security. This suggests that the four groups of respondents have different experiences as well as observations in the implementation of campus security in PhilCST. Some groups of respondents observe just the superficial form of security but some group has in-depth understanding on the aspects of campus security. According to the study of Ngo et.al (2014) on the perceptions of safety in UBC Campus Public Spaces, different groups of respondents vary responses in their perception of campus security. One factor is that the area is considered safe to someone who is familiar with the area, but may not feel safe to someone who has never been visited.

4.3. Campus Security Measures

This section presents the campus security measures along the three major areas of security by PhilCST as perceived by the four groups of respondents.

4.3.1. Physical Security Measures

In physical security measures, 'Installation of perimeter barriers such as fence and gates', 'Enforcement of Identification system', 'Locking system', 'Deployment of security personnel', and 'Lighting system' topped the physical security measures that are implemented in PhilCST. A student said "The measures undertaken by the school are by means of barriers, and streetlights in backyard. They also use security device in the computer room. Those people who are authorized only can enter inside." Furthermore, the respondents find 'Installation of security equipment such as CCTV, IP cameras, digital camera integration and intrusion detection and alarm system' as the lowest rated or observed form of physical security. This is true because PhilCST campus have alarm systems but does not have CCTV. An interview with one of the member of administrators of the school said that they have to put CCTV in all areas because like what I experienced before, my car bumped with another car but there is no evidence, I don't have any evidence. I don't know who bumped my car but if there's a CCTV, it is easy to solve that problem in terms of security. In addition, a staff said "It seems that we don't have CCTV, I mean we really don't have CCTV but we have an alarm system." In Pace University-Pleasantville Campus, it has an individual security system designed to meet its unique needs. Key areas are monitored by a Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) or an alarm system. The front doors at Dannat, Martin and North Halls have CCTV cameras that activate video recorders each time the doors are opened. In the incident a door is left open for more than 30 seconds, a local audible siren is heard. All of these systems are monitored at the Pleasantville campus Security Office where security personnel are dispatched when necessary. The general consent appears to be that if districts can have the funds for physical barriers and have the personnel to operate them, security measures such as weapons detectors, surveillance cameras, and access control devices can serve as an effective deterrent for campus violence.

4.3.2. Document Security Measures

In document security measures, indicator 'Document classification of sensitive documents/ information' and 'Safe keeping of classified documents/information in safe storage such as safes or vaults' topped the document security measures that are being implemented in PhilCST. This suggests that persons involved with documents and information knows how to evaluate documents with respect to their security risks. Further, safes or vaults for document safekeeping are provided by the campus. The respondents find 'Torn beyond recognition policy or throwing in a Classified Waste Container for destruction of classified document/ information' as the lowest applied or observed form of document security measure. This suggests that there is no strict precaution as to the proper disposition of classified documents. According to Shaleen (n.d.), most people only think of document security when it comes to highly sensitive documents that qualify for the incredibly cool term 'classified'. Nevertheless, document security is not something that should be taken frivolously. Documents are, after all, at the core of everything that a business does. In fact, they must be preserved as the most important aspect of any business's working because without them communication breaks down, efficiency plummets, and costs rise.

4.3.3. Personnel Security Measures

In personnel security measures, Indicator ‘Background investigation for newly hired personnel’ and ‘Submission of clearances of new personnel’ topped the personnel security measures being implemented in PhilCST. This is because PhilCST adopts measure to ensure that personnel are best suited to their chosen field to the extent of collecting all kinds of information on a candidate such as home addresses, education, past employment, marital status, children, friends, foreign travel, financial stability, police records and in the past ten years. Furthermore, the respondents find ‘Deployment of security personnel on critical areas such as auditoriums or under stages where items such as weapons or explosive materials can be hidden’ and ‘Deployment of additional school security personnel during special events’ as the lowest applied or observed personnel security measure. This implies that security guards are limited wherein they are mainly deployed to the entrance and exit points of the school and some are for roving. A staff said, “Parang wala namang nakaassign. Pero nag-iikot ikot sila, parang tinitignan lang nila.” (As if no one is assigned, as if they are just observing.) However, Tenorio, et al (2014) determined that hiring or adding more security personnel to ensure safety and security is needed when necessities arise. This is in connection with Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, people are only motivated and able to move onto higher levels of thinking when they feel comfortable and safe in their environment. Institutions strive to create a campus environment in which people’s fear violent crime does not hinder them academically or socially. Colleges use campus safety and security methods in an effort to create an environment in which the employees, students, and visitors can concentrate on their work, education, or visit.

4.4. Difference on Campus Security Measures

This section presents the computed chi-square for the significant difference on the campus security measures along the three major areas of security by PhilCST as perceived by the four groups of respondents. The chi-square computed value of 28.43361 for physical security; 6.406114 for document security and 2.875125 for personnel security are all less than the tabulated value of 36.42 at 0.05 level of significance. The null hypothesis was tested and rejected. Hence, the research hypothesis which is an alternative is accepted which suggests that there is a significant difference on the perceived campus security measures along the three major areas of security in PhilCST. This simply suggests that the administrators, faculty and non-teaching staff, students and visitors have different perception as to what campus security measure is most and lowest likely to be applied in PhilCST. This suggests that the responses of the respondents differ from each other. A factor to be considered is the familiarity of the respondents to the campus security measures adopted by the school. Hence, the lack of familiarity might also be a factor in the level of comfort experienced by people (Ngo et.al, 2014).

5. Conclusions And Recommendations

It was concluded that PhilCST is protected and that everyone who work, study or visit the campus feels security assurance; campus security measures are adopted by PhilCST for physical security, document security and personnel security; and lastly, the administrators, faculty members, staffs, students, and visitors of PhilCST have different views on the application of campus security and have different experience

and familiarity on the campus security measures adopted by the school. Thus, it is recommended that PhilCST should maintain its campus security practices along physical, document and personnel security; PhilCST should conduct security awareness and education through seminars and simulation exercises involving all stakeholders; security practices should be fully, religiously and consistently implemented within the campus; PhilCST should create a team of experts to conduct security survey and security inspection within the campus and to develop a Campus Security Manual based on the proposed action plan that can be adopted by the school; researches can be conducted on other aspects of campus security not covered in the study, and future researchers can use this study as reference.

6 References

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