John B. Lacson Foundation Maritime University-Molo, Inc. College of Business Iloilo City

A CASE STUDY ON THE SOCIO-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES OF LACSONIAN STUDENT-ATHLETES

A Qualitative Study

A Research Paper Presented to the
Faculty Members of the College of Business

John B. Lacson Foundation Maritime University-Molo, Inc.

Iloilo City

In Partial Fulfillment

Of the Requirements of the Subject

Methods of Research

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October 2010

John B. Lacson Foundation Maritime University-Molo, Inc. College of Business Iloilo City

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Abstract

This research used the qualitative approach in looking into the socio-academic experiences of the Lacsonian student-athletes, who are the main respondents. Student athletes are special population in the college whose activities demand for their time and energy. They have to balance their academic, athletic, social and personal activities. Thus, this study was undertaken to determine the socioacademic experiences of the student- athletes of the JBLFMU. The researchers were able to gather data from the respondents through a two-part interview. The first set of data was based from the personal data sheets given to the respondents, and the second, was from the in-depth interview where the respondents shared and discussed their experiences. The respondents focused their lives on four central spheres: academic, financial, physical, and social spheres. Their lives revolve around these spheres which were inter-related. Academic life of the student- athletes was thought to be greatly affected by their being university varsity players. The idea was that they made adjustments in

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order to fulfill both endeavors of their lives. Financial aspects were also taken into consideration by the respondents. Being student-athletes enable them to be in the university through the athletic scholarship which provides them free tuition fees. Their physical health was their capital as the demand in the dynamics and strength of their sports. Through constant practice, athletes develop awareness on how to live in a healthy lifestyle in order to be healthy and be physically active. Lastly, the results showed that their social life was greatly affected because their lives revolve among their classmates and co-athletes who provide their need for social belongingness.