

Perception on Augustinian Values among Senior High School Students of La Consolacion University Philippines

Mr. Ramonito C. Perez*, Dr. Divina Ann M. Eusebio

Engr. Felix F. Pascua Jr. La Consolacion University Philippines

*Corresponding Author: Mr. Ramonito C. Perez, Engr. Felix F. Pascua Jr. La Consolacion University Philippines, Email: knietzperez@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The world today in the 21st century post-modern age has been secularized due to modern technology as a major indicator that caused the decline in church membership. This research is designed to answer the problem of the times concerning Christian faith and value formation espoused by the Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation. To examine the Catholic direction or identity of an institution, it must begin with an examination of nature (charism or value) stipulated by its vision-mission and the academic curriculum of any religious institution. Finally, this research has been conducted to evaluate the present condition of Senior High School students, particularly the Grade 11 students (School Year 2017-2018) concerning their perceived Augustinian values or perhaps to check if the Augustinian values are visible both in words and action. Furthermore, the researchers came out to realize that the agents or mentors of Augustinian values, especially the laity in Augustinian schools, were also affected by the decline in number in terms of their commitment to the congregation's vision-mission as well as their perceived Augustinian values which finally affected also the formation of Augustinian values in their respective institutions and stakeholders. The researchers employed the descriptive-evaluative method in the process of research. In the descriptive method, mean, standard deviation and percentile were used to come up with significant results computed from the Liker survey questionnaires of the respondents. This study confirms the presence of the Augustinian values among Senior High School students (particularly Grade 11) because of its high correlation in the findings. Finally, this research has confirmed an authentic Augustinian values practiced by the students. In the statistics of priority of values, it is amazing that community of friends with the highest rating is being seconded by humility and followed by search for the truth or interiority.

Keywords: Religiosity, Augustinian Values, Value Formation, Perception, Spirituality

INTRODUCTION

The 1988 Catholic Congregation for Catholic Education declares that: "From the first moment that a student sets foot in a Catholic school, he or she ought to have the impression of entering a new environment, one illumined by the light of faith, and having its own unique characteristics" (Convey, 2012). Every Catholic school has Jesus Christ as its foundation and inspiration that guides the youth towards maturing in Christian faith (Philippine Catholic Standards for Basic Education, 2016). These unique characteristics embraced by the students during their academic studies are enhanced by the kind of charisma or a special gift that is unique to any religious order or congregation embedded in their core values and philosophy which are inspired by their founders and taught by the institution (Curry, 2014). According to Browning, core values are defined as things of value and serve as guideposts for organizations

with regard to leadership and decision making (2009). In any Catholic academic institution, values are manifested in religious services being offered in the curriculum especially in theology and religion courses. And without any doubt, these values which speak about their unique spiritual identity are presumably professed by mentors or teachers in the daily execution of the curriculum based from the vision-mission of their academic institution (2015: ISO 9001-2008. LCUP User's Manual).

La Consolacion University Philippines (LCUP), Malolos City, as the first Catholic University in the province of Bulacan, has espoused the charism or spirituality of St. Augustine of Hippo. Schools as the melting pot for values formation have always the capacity to promote positive values towards their students in the academic institution. Since Augustinian values are being taught across all departments and all levels, it is expected for mentors to first

manifest these congregational values or charism in their personal lives. Father Alberto L. Esmeralda, OSA (2012) clarifies that Augustinian values are Christian values which St. Augustine of Hippo colored with his saintly life and deepened with his teachings. If LCUP (La Consolacion University Philippines) as an Academic Institution advocates forming students with Christian values via its Augustinian Charism, then, the researchers assumed that the longer the Senior High School Students stayed at La Consolacion University Philippines the greater the Augustinian values they have imbibed from the institution. There has been a common knowledge to moralists that values cannot be taught because they are not activities or tasks to be done but rather to be imitated freely and voluntarily (Esmeralda, 2012). Curko, in his Manual for Teachers and Educators, states that the early childhood education is the most important phase to initiate a healthy development. But most importantly, adolescence period is also critical for moral development (Curko, 2015).

The researchers came out of this value formation research because the Religious Order of St. Augustine, both local and international, has been experiencing a decline in its number of friars and priests as per records in the Augustinian Archives and Research Center of 2013 (Curry, 2014). The decline of the Augustinian religious vocation has also been experienced by their local counterpart in the Philippines, the Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation (ASOLC) for almost a decade now. Therefore, the researchers came to realize that the agents or mentors of Augustinian values, especially the laity in Augustinian schools, were also affected by the decline in number in terms of their commitment to the congregation's mission-vision as well as their perceived Augustinian values which finally affected also the formation of Augustinian values in their respective institutions and stakeholders. At present, La Consolacion University Philippines (LCUP) is in direly needed of qualified theology and religion instructors to teach in the different colleges, especially the Senior High School Department or Basic Education department. To address the lack of theology and religion teachers, elementary advisers in the previous years were obliged to teach religion subjects even without specialized degrees and training in catechesis, theology, and Augustinian spirituality. Due to

this existing scenario, the researchers posited and made a significant impression that the shortage of religious Augustinian priests and religious sisters would reflect the kind of environment the Senior High School students perceived the Augustinian values. In another words, this assumption has also reflected as to what kind of students the academic institution has been forming.

In general, the world today in the 21st century post-modern age has been secularized due to modern technology as a major indicator that caused the decline in church membership, in the churchgoers and the reception of the sacraments (Capucan, 2016). Secularization theory, as explained by Capucan (2016) in their article entitled "*Secularization and Spirituality from a Theoretical and Empirical Perspective*," states that there is a significant change in the religious phenomenon in modern society. Its main thesis is that modernization necessarily leads to the decline of religion, both in society and in the minds of the individuals (Capucan, 2016). Secularization per se is the removal of religion and morality under the controls of religion (Galang, 2019). Besides, secularization in the context of pluralism diminishes the divinity of Jesus. The pluralists direct to believe that Christ is no longer at the orbit of the faith (Perez, 2018). That is why, this research was conceptualized to counter-check or monitor the value formation of the Augustinian institution run by the Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation in the university. Vatican II document, *Gravissimum Educationist*, (Pope Paul VI, 1965) popularly known as, *The Declaration on Christian Education* declares that any Catholic school must have a steadfast Catholic direction and identity.

To examine the Catholic direction or identity of an institution, it must begin with an examination of nature (charism or value) stipulated by its vision-mission and the academic curriculum of any religious institution (Convey, 2012). Finally, this research was conducted to evaluate the present condition of Senior High School students, particularly the Grade 11 students (School Year 2017-2018) concerning their perceived Augustinian values or perhaps to check if the Augustinian values were present in their lives during their academic stay in the university.

In the end, this study could aid the Augustinian Sisters of the Congregation to reflect deeply on

their mission-vision and redirect their mentors to be relevant in their calling to become genuine formatters to the youth especially to the Basic Education students. Furthermore, this humble research could take the lead for the future teachers in religion, theology, and values education for innovation of their curriculum in the Augustinian value formation program. The findings of this research could serve also as an initial basis for identifying, planning, implementing or upgrading programs/activities of the office of Augustinian core values being cascaded and absorbed by the Basic Education Students especially the Senior High School students (Grade 11) at LCUP amidst massive influence of secularism in the postmodern 21st century.

Specifically, the study sought to answer the following questions:

- How familiar are the Senior High School Students concerning their knowledge of St. Augustine in terms of his life and works?
- What Augustinian values did the respondents manifest most during their stay in the University?
- What particular value formation programs did the respondents most attract with?
- Is there a significant correlation between the number of years of residency and the Augustinian values acquired by the Senior High School Students in LCUP?

METHODOLOGY

The researchers employed the descriptive-evaluative method in the process of research because this research required validation of Catholic Augustinian Core Values and practices among Senior High School students vis-à-vis the recent massive secularization of the world. In the descriptive method, mean, standard deviation and percentile were used to come up with significant results computed from the Likert survey questionnaires of the respondents. The data employed in this research is typically presented in APA format is typically represented in tables, graphs, and charts which makes it user-friendly and easy to interpret. (*Center for Innovation in Research and Teaching, 2019*)

Correlation was availed particularly to identify the correlation between the intensity of the Augustinian values and the years of stay of the students in the university. Spearman Rho formula is a non-parametric measure of rank correlation that assesses how well the relationship between two variables using a monotonic function. The researchers looked for correlation between two variables and assessed statistical relationship between them. It is denoted by the symbol r or the Greek letter ρ , pronounced as rho (Laerd, 2019). The Survey Questionnaires comprised three (3) major divisions; namely, a.) Personal or demographic profile b.) Assessment on respondents' familiarity with the teachings and works of St. Augustine and c.) Assessment on the presence of the six (6) Augustinian values embedded into the minds and hearts of the students in the university.

First, the personal profile was so short that the emphasis directed only to the respondents' year of residency in the university and their level of knowledge on Augustinian values. The second set of questionnaires evaluated the level of familiarity with the life, works, and teachings of St. Augustine. Knowing Augustine's life, works and teachings was a basic step to absorb and imitate the values and virtues of St. Augustine. The third set of questionnaires determined how Augustinian were the respondents based on the given list of Augustinian values.

The purpose of introducing Augustinian values in the curriculum of Grade 11 is to touch the hearts of the students and to walk the talk as inspired from the teachings of St. Augustine. Finally, this paper served as a revisit to the commitment and the efficiency of the mentors to the Augustinian vision-mission proclaimed by the Augustinian Sisters at LCUP. Since 21st century postmodern age is a confusing age to everyone, at least, the mentors should uphold more the moral principles and values laid down by their founder, St Augustine and the teachings of our savior Jesus Christ as they manifested it in their actions. As an overall result, this paper revisited how stable were the Augustinian values among the Senior High Students in Scholl 2017-2018 as they proudly practiced them as true Augustinians amidst the dwindling phenomenon of Christian faith and spirituality due to the secularization of the world.

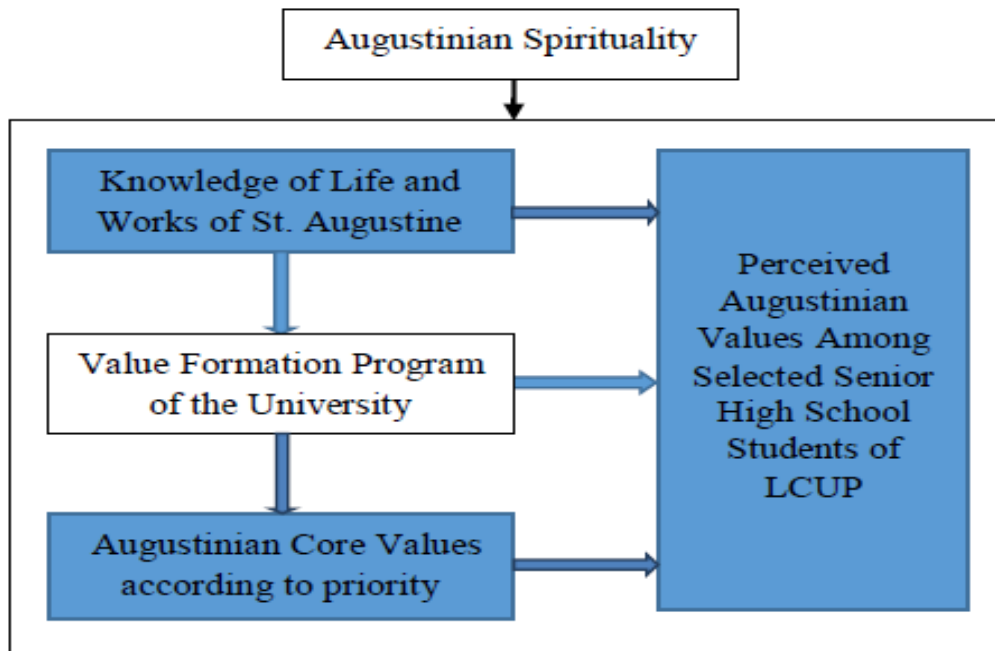


Figure1. Conceptual Framework

This conceptual framework is anchored in the biblical truth (Genesis 1:25) which says that humanity is created in the image and likeness of God (Youth Bible, 2000). Spirituality is a strong desire for God that is written in the deep longings of human heart (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1994). It means that humanity or human beings could explicitly and implicitly do good and avoid evil which is embedded in their religious beliefs and values. In this particular study, the unveiling of the presence of the Augustinian Values among Senior High School Students in La Consolacion University, Malolos City was drawn from the spirituality of St. Augustine of Hippo which has been cascaded in the vision-mission of the institution. The Augustinian values which are also based from deep knowledge of St. Augustine are Christian values that are expected to manifest as their identifying mark during their stay in the university. Inculcating the Augustinian values among the Senior High School Students of the university is part and parcel of the institution's educational process which has been structured within one or more school subjects, dedicated specifically to ethical and moral formation in view of the Catholic Christian perspective. It is also often connected with religious education and comprises a single school subject, which enables the students to learn about world religions and supports the development of beliefs and values (Curco et.al.,2015). Their knowledge of the life and works of St. Augustine could

result to the understanding and imbibing the Augustinian values.

Based from the stated conceptual framework above, this research proved that there is a significant correlation between the number of years of stay of the students in the university and their perceived Augustinian values via their knowledge of the life and works of St. Augustine and their active participation in the religious programs intended for Basic Education Department.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This research proved and laid down the statistics showing how Augustinian core values were being cascaded and absorbed by the Basic Education Students especially the Senior High School students at LCUP amidst massive influence of secularism in the postmodern 21st century. Specifically, the study sought to answer the following questions stated in the statement of the problem.

Answer to the Statement of the Problem Number one (1)

Statement of the problem number one (1) states that: "How familiar are the Senior High School Students concerning their knowledge of St. Augustine in terms of his life and works?" Below are the data to prove the level of familiarity of the Senior High School students concerning their knowledge of St. Augustine in terms of his life and works?

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Statistics			
Personal Knowledge of St. Augustine	Mean	Std. Deviation	Interpretation
St. Augustine is a Patron Saint of the Augustinian Order and Augustinian Congregations.	3.43	.763	Great Extent
He is known as the Father of Grace.	2.50	1.032	Moderate Extent
Though he was an African, particularly Berber by descent, he was privileged to have a Roman citizen in Algeria.	2.69	.966	Great Extent
Augustine was a great sinner before he became a Saint.	3.40	.877	Great Extent
Monica was the mother of St. Augustine and who at the same time an instrumental to his conversion to Christianity.	3.52	.766	Very Great Extent
Augustine had a son named Adeodatus and died later at the age of 18	2.90	1.022	Great Extent
Augustine stamped the doctrine of the Trinity in the Catholic Church by writing a book, called “De Trinitate.”	2.64	.950	Great Extent
Augustine did not personally want to become a priest but he was interested to build a monastery with his friends. He was just struck by surprise to become a priest.	2.55	1.054	Great Extent
He was bom at Thagaste (now Souk- Ahras, Algeria) North Africa on Novemver 13, 354 A.D...	2.67	.995	Great Extent
His initial conversion to Christianity initiated by reading Cicero’s book called, “Hortensius.”	2.31	.861	Moderate Extent
After he finished college in Carthage, Africa at the age of 30, he became a teacher of Rhetoric in Milan in the year 384 A.D.	2.52	.935	Great Extent
In autumn of 386, he went to Cassiciacum Villa in Milan for a retreat together with his friends. In this particular place, he experienced a total conversion by hearing a mysterious singsong of children, “Tolle Lege,” which means “Take and Read” at the age of 32.	2.76	1.090	Great Extent
Augustine received his baptism from Bishop. Ambrose, a charismatic bishop in the Cathedral of Milan in the year 387 A.D.	2.90	1.068	Great Extent
While on his way to Africa, his mother Monica died at the small island of Ostia when Augustine was 33 years old.	2.71	1.033	Great Extent
After returning home at North Africa in the year 388, Augustine set up a community of Lay Monks at Thagaste together with his friends.	2.38	.953	Moderate Extent
After he succeeded Bishop Valerius as the Bishop of Hippo, he set up a monastery for clerics in the 396 A.D.	2.43	.958	Moderate Extent
As an adolescent, Augustine stole some pears with gang of friends in Thagaste.	2.67	1.065	Great Extent
In August 28, 430 A.D. St Augustine died and was buried. A King of Lombardy buried the body of St. Augustine at Pavia.	2.45	.984	Moderate Extent
Augustine wrote a famous book of his spiritual journey entitled, “The Confessions” in the year 401 A.D.	2.79	.992	Great Extent
St. Augustine was a great defender of the Catholic Church by fighting through writings against different heresies of his time; namely, Manichaeism, Plagiarism, Donatism and Arianism.	2.86	1.017	Great Extent
Average	2.7548	.62997	Great Extent

Based from the descriptive table shown above, it shows that generally the respondents (Grade 11 students) had an average score of great extent (mean=2.75, s=0.63) with regards to their personal knowledge of St. Augustine. Particularly, their personal knowledge about Monica as the mother of St. Augustine and who at the same time an instrumental to his conversion to Christianity (mean=3.52, s =.77) got a very great extent. Fourteen (14) out of twenty (20) questions had great extent value, while the remaining five (5) had the score of moderate extent.

The curriculum of La Consolacion University for Senior High School contained curriculum for Catholic school wherein Augustinian spirituality and value had been integrated in religion subjects. Question number five (5) in the knowledge level as Monica’s great influence to the conversion of Augustine got the highest mean as to the very great extent because the Senior High Grade 11 students were still very dependent from their parents especially to their respective mothers. The constant exposure of the statue of Our Lady of Consolation and the constant prayer to the canonization of Mother

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Consuelo in the chapel and during Eucharistic Celebrations would always remind the students the presence of Monica and the remarkable conversion of St. Augustine to Christianity. Finally, the overall result as to the great extent in the level of knowledge would justify how efficient was the curriculum of religion for the Senior High School in the university. An important component of the curriculum of a Catholic school was the teaching of religion. This study showed the importance of the knowledge on St. Augustine as first and foremost important qualifier in order to measure or justify their commitment to the University's mission vision.

Furthermore, John Convey says that for an effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools should provide a rigorous academic program for religious studies and catechesis in the Catholic faith and importantly set within a total academic curriculum that integrates faith, culture and life (Convey, 2012). Answer to the Statement of the Problem number two (2) Statement of the Problem number two states that: "What Augustinian Values did the respondents manifest most during their stay in the University?"

Statistics			
Assessment of the Augustinian Values Imbided by the Senior High School During their Stay at LCUP	Mean	Std. Deviation	Interpretation
Search for the truth/Interiority	3.19	.700	Great Extent
Humility	3.29	.767	Great Extent
Unity in Community	3.12	.934	Great Extent
Friendship in Community	3.52	.734	Very Great Extent
Service to the Church and Community	3.07	.913	Great Extent
Preferential Option for the Poor	3.17	.845	Great Extent
Compassion	3.31	.742	Great Extent
Action/Contemplation	3.00	.789	Great Extent
Missionary Spirit	3.07	.770	Great Extent
Scriptural	2.74	.956	Great Extent
Christ-Centered	3.19	1.032	Great Extent
Courage (Witnessing to the Truth)	3.10	.897	Great Extent
Living out the Frontier Spirit of Mother Rita and Mother Consuelo	2.74	.904	Great Extent
Living a simple life and passion for excellence	3.10	.897	Great Extent
Marian Character	2.71	.936	Great Extent
Average	3.0879	.61914	Great Extent

Looking at the table on assessment of the Augustinian values imbided by the Senior High School during their Stay at LCUP, it has a value of great extent with a mean of 3.09 and a standard deviation of 0.62 (mean = 3.09, s = 0.62). It also shows that Friendship in Community (mean=3.52, s=.73) had very great extent, and the remaining fourteen (14) out of the fifteen (15) Augustinian values had great extent. Out of the fourteen Augustinian values manifested in La Consolacion University, all of them got the high value of great extent except of friendship in community which got the highest value of the very great extent.

The first core value for Augustinian education is the pursuit of unity, both as a method and a goal. Augustine in all his writings did not envision learning as individualistic, but as an accomplished entity in community with others.

In his *Rule* of life, Augustine minded his brothers and sisters that the primary reason for coming together is to "live harmoniously in your house, intent upon God in oneness of mind and heart" (Augustinian General Curia, 2008, p.9). Baker echoes Mc Closkey (2006) in his studies which say: "for Augustine, learning with others is of the utmost importance, and the means by which this learning takes place is through dialogue". The core value of unity in this study was promoted in Augustinian education through the dialogue that takes place between teachers as well as students and students encounter with each other (Stephen Baker, 2016).

Answer to the Statement of the Problem number three (3) what particular value formation programs did the respondents most attract with?

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Statistics			
Assessment of the Different Programs or Venues of Augustinian Values Intended for the Basic Education Department	Mean	Std. Deviation	Interpretation
Attends religion classes attentively.	3.33	.971	Great Extent
Attends Eucharistic Celebration or Masses every Sundays and Holidays of Obligation.	2.86	1.085	Great Extent
Receives Holy Communion or Eucharist during Masses religiously.	3.07	1.081	Great Extent
Becomes interested in attending in campus Recollection in school.	2.88	1.054	Great Extent
Becomes more interested and motivated in attending off-campus Retreats.	3.19	.985	Great Extent
Offers service to the Church and Community voluntarily.	2.79	.967	Great Extent
Has compassion and preferential option for the poor.	2.98	.991	Great Extent
Has innate Love for God and Neighbor.	3.19	1.032	Great Extent
Believes in Action/Contemplation as expression of spiritual life.	2.95	1.049	Great Extent
Involves in Missionary Spirit and accepts one's beliefs or culture of others.	3.14	.993	Great Extent
Average	3.0381	.84114	Great Extent

Based from the result on the assessment of the different programs or venues of Augustinian values intended for the Basic Education Department (mean=3.04, s=.84), it manifests a great extent in all of the questions in this category. The result of the assessment concerning the different programs or venues for the Augustinian value formation was fair enough to conclude that it had significant influence on the Senior High Students on their quest towards Augustinian spiritual formation. All of the ten (10) spiritual programs mentioned above got the average score of "great extent" with five (5) of them got the mean score of 3 and above. The three questions that garnered the highest scores are as follows; namely, in attending religion classes attentively with the mean of 3.33; the second and the third highest mean got a score of tie which came from the topic on strong interest in attending recollection and retreats and having innate desire to love God and neighbor with the mean score of 3.19. The data shows that religion class is an effective means to form the students to embrace Augustinian values by loving God and neighbor

through retreats and recollections. In LCUP, there is an aura of welcome to all students regardless of religions and affiliations. The teachers in Senior High in the University displayed non-discriminating attitude towards their students and to persons of other religious groups. In religion classes and recollection programs Augustinian values affirmed the presence of God in each person and the human person's search for God. (Baker, 2016.) Augustine, in book four of his *Confessions*, described the significance of his interaction with his friends that resulted in a unity of mind and heart.

According to Baker, Augustinian pedagogy in the core value of unity is learning to desire and create unity, a unity that brings together spirits and souls leading to the creation of a community of friends. It is in this community that we meet and dialogue with the Inner Teacher in the classroom or academic program as well as in recollections and Eucharistic celebrations where the love of God and neighbor has been experienced in Christ (Baker, 2016.)

Summary of Descriptive Statistics			
	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Personal Knowledge of St. Augustine	2.7548	.62997	168
Augustinian Values Imbided by the Senior High School During their Stay at LCUP	3.0879	.61914	168
Different Programs or Venues of Augustinian Values Intended for the Basic Education Department	3.0381	.84114	168

Based from the summary of the descriptive statistics above, the personal knowledge of St. Augustine has an average score of "great extent" with the mean of 2.7548 and with the standard deviation of 0.62997. In the same way, the

average score of "great extent" is also related to the Augustinian values imbided by the Senior High School during their stay in the university with the mean of 3.0879 and with the standard deviation of 0.61914. Amazingly, another average

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score of “great extent” is also manifested in the survey questionnaires for the different programs or venues of Augustinian values intended for the Basic Education Department with mean equivalent of 3.0381 converted to 0.84114 as its standard deviation. Looking at the data summary, one could figure out a trilogy of great extent regarding the effectiveness on knowledge of St. Augustine, the Augustinian values which had been imbibed by the

Correlation

		Personal Knowledge of St. Augustine	Augustinian Values Imbibed by the Senior High School During their Stay at LCUP
Augustinian Values Imbibed by the Senior High School During their Stay at LCUP	Pearson Correlation	.452**	
	Sig.(2-tailed)	.000	
	N	168	
Different Programs or Venues of Augustinian Values Intended for the Basic Education Department	Pearson Correlation	.489**	.801**
	Sig.(2-tailed)	.000	.000
	N	168	168

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based from the table presented above, it shows that Augustinian Values were imbibed by the Senior High School students particularly Grade 11 students during their stay at LCUP and have manifested statistically as significant in correlation with the personal knowledge of the life and works of St. Augustine with the average score of 0.452. This is to show that the personal knowledge of St. Augustine is a prerequisite to acquire the said Augustinian values for the Grade 11 students during their stay at La Consolacion University. Out of five hundred respondents (500) from Grade 11, one hundred sixty eight (168) students were randomly surveyed to come up with high correlation at 0.01 level of significance. In order to assess the impact of the increasing students’ understanding of the Augustinian core values, it has been proven academically embodied within the mission vision of the University and in the hearts of the mentors who were in-charged in forming the students towards Augustinian charism and religiosity. The incorporation of values into the curriculum by way of Integral Evangelization Program office as well as in the religion program was effective as exemplified in Catholic curriculum of the university wherein the Augustinian pedagogy had impacted the students cognitively and spiritually.

The variables, years of stay and personal knowledge of St. Augustine, resonated at their grade level that was derived from this spiritual perspective of the study. A shared Christian praxis model has provided the theoretical

students. The preference of the religious practices and venues was also of a great extent in the summary of statistics mentioned above was a positive indicator to affirm the presence of Augustinian values among the Senior High students. Is there a significant correlation between the number of years of residency and the Augustinian values acquired by the Senior High School Students in LCUP?

grounding to fulfill the Catholic Augustinian mission of increasing a person’s understanding of one of the Augustinian core values; such as **VERITAS** or seek for the truth. (Curry, 2014). Another variable that correlates significantly in the formation of Augustinian values among Grade 11 students is the various religious programs and venues designed for students under the supervision of the office of the Integral Evangelization Program, the Campus Ministry Office of the university. The table of statistics shows a high correlation with a score of 0.489. Based from the data on recollections and retreats conducted by the Office of the Integral Evangelization Program for the last 3 years (from 2015 to 2018) the result was very favorable to the students. According to Mr. Jose Neal Tabingo, the director of the said office (IEP), their religious programs on Campus Ministry, especially recollections, retreats and daily masses (Eucharistic Celebrations) have helped a lot in the formation of Augustinian values among the Senior High Students, particularly, the Grade 11 students. The reasons behind the significant correlation were as follows: a.) the recollection facilitators were trained and specialized in giving recollections and retreats, and b.) the daily masses were celebrated daily at the university chapel with assigned chaplain.

Lastly, this study demonstrated how Senior High students at this stage of their spiritual development favored religious formation via academic pedagogy and pastoral activities of the

university to continuously seek the Augustinian core value, particularly, *VERITAS* (truth) or interiority. By taking the journey within themselves and then reaching outside themselves through their search for academic knowledge, knowledge of self and knowledge of God are being realized with the aid of their enough knowledge of the life and works of St. Augustine (Curry, 2014). In the end, the researchers were happy to know that their research unveiled the spiritual or religious maturity of the respondents as they perceived God in interpersonal terms through their academic and pastoral enrichment. As a consequence, their stay of the Grade 11 students in the university made them aware to learn that the search for them was a search for God. Without any doubt, the recollections and the Eucharist brought them to draw closer to Christ or to acknowledge that God was at the center of all activities, both curricular and extracurricular activities.

CONCLUSION

- In general, the LCUP Grade 11 Senior High students had a considerable personal knowledge of St. Augustine. Augustine's popular identity as the Patron Saint of the Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation had been identified as well as his being a sinner had been also marked and fully remembered by the students. However, the popularity of St. Monica, the mother of St. Augustine, was more popular than St. Augustine, because the Marian character was prevalent among the students in the university. St. Monica has been attached to Our Lady of Consolation which is very popular and visible in terms physical presence and manifestation through images and pictures in the school premises. Besides, as adolescents they were mostly attached and dependent to their parents, especially to their respective mothers at home.
- In terms of the priority of manifesting Augustinian values, it has been evident in the university campus the value of friendship in the community (*Unitas*) among students in Grade 11 as well as to higher years and college students. The research has confirmed an authentic Augustinian community wherein students live as community of friends with one heart and mind intent upon God. In the statistics of priority of values, it is amazing

that community of friends with the highest rating is being seconded by humility and followed by search for the truth or interiority.

- This study confirms the presence of the Augustinian values among Senior High School students (particularly Grade 11) because of its high correlation in the findings; as it is expressed in the variables of correlation. Their stay in the university has something to do with their value formation. Without any doubt, they have imbibed the Augustinian values as it is being correlated with their personal knowledge of St. Augustine as well as manifested in the different programs and venues intended for Basic Education Department via the office of Integral Evangelization Program of the university.
- Lastly, this humble research could be a spring board to attract more studies on Augustinian studies and spirituality. What we have proven is just a speck and tip of an iceberg in drawing out value formation in the university. We live in a secular postmodern world wherein students are turning into atheists and materialists and find it very difficult to appreciate meta-narrative, history, values education and religion. That is why, this paper may encourage mentors on religion and values education to draw out more studies especially to endeavor on Augustinian studies in order to aid and promote the Augustinian vision mission at La Consolacion University Philippines.

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