



RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION CENTER
Institute of Economy and Enterprise Studies
In collaboration with



2nd

Regional Student Research Congress & Regional Conference on recent issues and trends in Business, Accounting, Management, and Economics

IEES 2023

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

July 21, 2023

via zoom powered Quipper

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES:

This conference tries to:

- a) To stimulate the exchange of ideas and foster collaboration among faculty, students, and graduate researchers by highlighting the importance of data-driven research and its impact on economic recovery;
- b) To empower students and young researchers to elevate their research efforts in addressing industry - specific challenges, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application; and
- c) To provide a platform for showcasing innovative, data-driven situations to economic disruptions, thereby fostering a culture of research and development that can drive sustainable economic recovery.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker

DR. MICHAEL B. BATU
University of the Fraser Valley
Canada



Plenary Speaker 1

DR. SAKET JESWANI
OP Jindal University
India



Plenary Speaker 2

DR. DEWI FAENI
Universitas Bhayangkara Jakarta Raya
Indonesia

Virtual internship program in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic: Insights from business administration student interns and industry partners

Gladys B. Lapaz*, April Rose P. Dinopol, Allyn Grace R. Nahial, & Jasel Ann S. Ugalingan

Department of Business Administration, UM Bansalan College

*Corresponding author: gladys.lapaz@umindanao.edu.ph

ABSTRACT

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual internships have gained traction globally as a better alternative for many higher education institutions. This study aimed to explore the experiences and insights of the business administration student interns and industry partners on implementing a virtual internship program in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The phenomenological approach was used as a qualitative research design. Six business administration student interns were involved in in-depth interviews, three industry partners, and three school administrators during focus group discussion. The study's findings show the pros and cons experienced by the business administration student interns during the virtual internship program with the following themes: acquired skills and competencies, financial advantages, stress and disappointment, limited 'in-person' experience, disconnection, and adjustment issues. It was also revealed how the business administration student interns coped with the challenges of the virtual internship program with the following themes: positive attitude, motivation, time management, support, and setting up technology. The business administration student interns and industry partners shared their insights to improve the implementation of the virtual internship program with the following themes: optimism, online student engagement, blended internship, use of video simulation, learning support, technology support, free from distraction, student orientation, and student's attitude. The findings will provide information to the incoming business administration student interns and the school that currently has a virtual internship program, which could help them improve the implementation of the said program.

Keywords: *business administration education, virtual internship, COVID-19, student interns, industry partners, phenomenology, Davao del Sur*