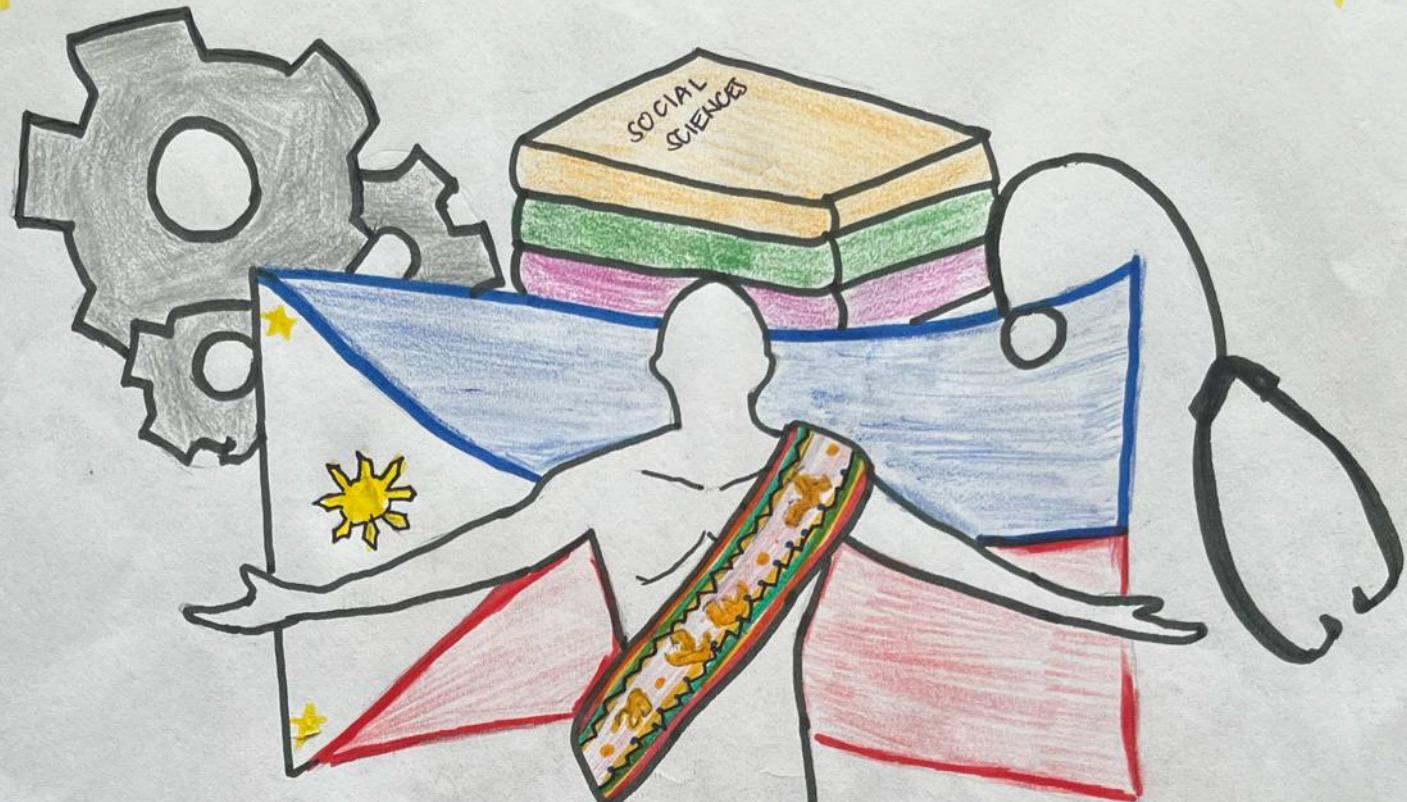


UPM STUDENTS: Unwavering Political Will



ART OF BEING A CITIZEN

STRUCTURED ENGAGEMENT

- participating in formal political processes such as the elections

EVERYDAY PARTICIPATION

- engaging in community projects, discussions, and social advocacies.

UPM STUDENTS FOR CHANGE

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

- fights for those that are voiceless, the common folks.

WAVE OF CHANGE

- the people who do not let problems remain in stagnation. We address problems to be the sparks for change.



HONOR, EXCELLENCE &
SERVICE.



SYMBOLISMS

Oble with the Philippine flag

- Oble is the symbol of being UP students. What this aims to represent is that the Iskolar ng Bayan will always be embraced service, that they are always reminded that they are indebted to the Filipino people for the education that they have right now.

People of different professions under the Philippine flag

- This symbolizes that after graduating from the University of the Philippines, no matter the profession, the Iskolar ng Bayan will always be beneath the people who they owe their education to, the taxpayers. It is a reminder that UP students should be grounded at all times, exhibiting humility and a sense of responsibility.

Cogs, Stethoscope, Books

- This aims to symbolize that the UP students, like any other Filipino, are part of a much larger functioning machine. We are part of a whole, nothing special, to make this society run. It is a reminder to stay humble, that no matter what you achieve after graduating, you are still a Filipino who will give back to the society that provided you the privilege of studying in an esteemed institution.

Rocky footing of the Oble

- This symbolizes the unwavering commitment and dedication of UP students to fight for what they believe in. It aims to show that the Iskolar ng Bayan has an inexhaustible resolve to fight for what is right, the political initiative to provide a voice for those that are voiceless.

The other group of words' symbolism

- It aims to show that UP builds leaders, those who can stem the tide and move mountains. The Iskolar ng Bayan will always be a group of students that does not allow the stagnation of issues that need to be changed. It is a reminder of our responsibility to take initiative to start the wave of change.

Reflection Paper

What is my responsibility? This is a question that most people do not really think about. When we think about our responsibilities, we often think about the most basic of things. But what we forget is our responsibility to the people, “other people”. But some people might think, who are the other people that I am referring to? The Philippines is a poor but very culturally rich country. It is a place in which you will see people who are struggling go about their day with a smile. The Philippines might be struggling economically, but our real treasure is our people. We might be poor, but we never lose the culture of “walang iwanan” (YouTube Video “The Genius of the Filipino Poor | Thomas Graham | TEDxADMU”, 2017). This is the other people that I am referring to, the people outside of our immediate family. A quote that I remember in class, “the real enemies are those that do not care.” I highly resonate with this. I hate those who turn a blind eye, even though they know that they can help. Where is the culture of “walang iwanan” with them? Where is their sense of responsibility to help those in their community?

We fail to recognize that each of us has the responsibility to be an active citizen. What this means is we fulfill our duty as individuals part of a bigger whole. We try to keep the machinery running by doing our part in developing our communities. The effort doesn’t need to be all out immediately; you can progressively take part little by little. In our discussion earlier, the question “What is your advocacy?” made me think. What is a cause that I have a firm belief that I should take part in in the future? As a dog lover, I fight for the welfare of animals. Ever since I was young, I have highly condemned the people who treat animals harshly. In the future, I intend to join movements that will create a bigger impact for the welfare of animals. But right now, I try to address my advocacy “little by little.” Right now, I can only do so little. I came with my friend once to do a feeding program for street cats in UP Diliman. In the future, I want to continue actions like this for the advocacy I strongly resonate with. This is my interpretation of being an active citizen, doing the small things that might make a difference.

RIZAL HALL

Reflection Paper

Another advocacy that I highly resonate with is the protection of the lives of senior citizens. I am someone who highly values the welfare of my elders, as someone who has already lost my grandparents on both sides, I treat this as an expression of my love for them. I cannot communicate with them anymore, but at least I can help elders who remind me of them. Simple giving of money to those elders in the street will go a long way. Looking forward, I want to help the street beggars with even my spare change. This is a step in the right direction. A future in which I will lead donation drives and feeding programs for people who are struggling. This is my way of being an active citizen. Doing the little things that are considered big by those less fortunate. As a UP student, like any Iskolar ng Bayan, I promise to give back to the community. To help those who struggle to make ends meet. This is my way of showing the “walang iwanan” culture of us Filipinos. To give back to the community when you have already reached your dreams and true actualization. But for now, I aim to fulfill my duties, to do the little things that will make this society move forward.

In summary, we are a poor country, but our treasure is our people. It deeply saddens me how people from different countries recognize our gifts, but our brothers and sisters are those who pull the Philippines down even further. Active citizenship is of utmost importance especially for the younger generation. We are the ones that will lead the future, so our participation in political discourse goes a long way (MOD 8 THE POLITICAL SELF AND CITIZENSHIP). Let us bring out the culture of no one left behind, the promise “walang iwanan” in our communities, to create waves of progress for the future Filipino generations.