Scaffolds engineered for service leadership education

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With the experience gained from the service leadership community, the Center for Engineering Education Innovation (E²I) of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) intends to build a more customized platform of service leadership education for engineering students and to extend this leadership education to professional engineering training. An engineering design course is being developed for students to learn and practice service leadership, and a study is conducted on how the service leadership concepts can be used for engineering ethics teaching. The design course allows students to apply what they learn in class to satisfy the special needs of certain people and then to reflect on their design process. The impacts of this course on student learning of service leadership will be analyzed and compared with those of the peer mentoring program in the community, aiming to identify the effective components for teaching and promoting service leadership.

Also, in engineering practice, explicit reference to official ethical codes/rules of conduct is not typical, and pledging to follow them is not adequate for ethical judgement and practice. The concepts of service leadership are useful resources to foster holistic development of engineering students to handle ethical/conduct issues. Thus, a study is targeted to address how the elements and core beliefs of service leadership can comply with the codes of ethics in engineering practice and act as a supplement to the teaching of engineering ethics and professional responsibility.

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