

# **“STUDENT LEARNING CIRCLE” PROGRAM ASSESSMENT FOR IMPROVED STUDENTS’ SCHOLASTIC PERFORMANCE AND RETENTION**

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This study is an assessment of the implementation of the “Student Learning Circle” Program (SLC), as a vehicle to improve scholastic performance and retention of students. The study aimed to make an assessment of the SLC program from the viewpoint of student-mentors and student-mentees at Jose Rizal University. Specifically, the study sought to know (1) the profile of mentors and mentees in the SLC program of the university; (2) their assessment of the SLC program implementation; (3) their assessment of the collaboration of the mentors and mentees in the learning circle; (4) their assessment on the effectiveness of SLC relative to the mentees pursuit of the course/subject; and (5) their concerns for improvements of the SLC program. Exhaustive sampling was used, involving 107 respondents: consisting of 33 student mentors and 74 student mentees, who were referred to the SLC Program based on their failed Midterm Grades. At the end of the SLC Program, fifty- three (53) out of the seventy-four (74) mentees or seventy-two percent (72%) obtained passing grades in the Final. Overall, the assessment of high ratings on the SLC program effectiveness of implementation and collaboration foretells well of the SLC program of the institution. Moreover, suggestions for refinement of the use of this approach can be pursued through a development or intervention program.