The Shared Benefits of Student Community Volunteer Experiences



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How It All Started

The Chicken and the Egg

Was it Alleycon 2014, or was it the Interview Class?

Why I did it—For the Students

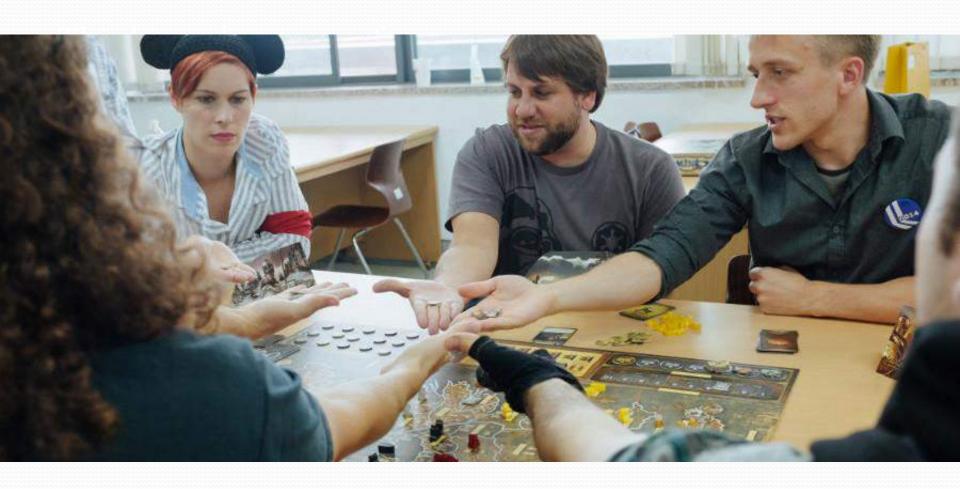
- Students needed more experiences for their resumes
- Students needed to get English practice
- Students needed to get over their "fear of foreigners" including more than one at a time
- Students needed to experience working in an "All-English Environment"
- Students needed to make "foreign friends"
- Students received a certificate showing how many hours they volunteered

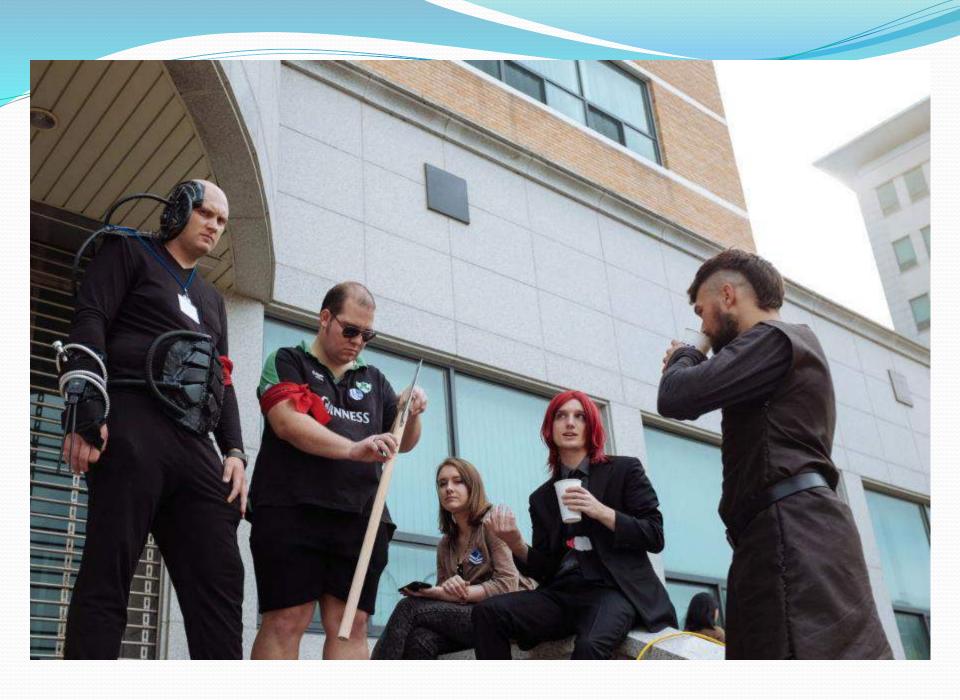
Why I did it—For the Event

- We needed some helpers with registration
- We needed helpers with "security"
- We needed help with "room monitoring"
- We needed help running PSA's over the PA System
- We needed help with setup and teardown
- Tim needed a helper with the food truck

Why I thought it would work

- Alleycon 2014 was at KWU-their school
- I was attending and helping "run the show"
- It was an interesting culture event with foreigners having fun and dressing silly
- Most of the attendees and other helpers were also teachers
- The subject matter was "mostly" harmless
- Airline majors basically train for this kind of service work
- The event was planned to be all volunteers with proceeds going to charity.



















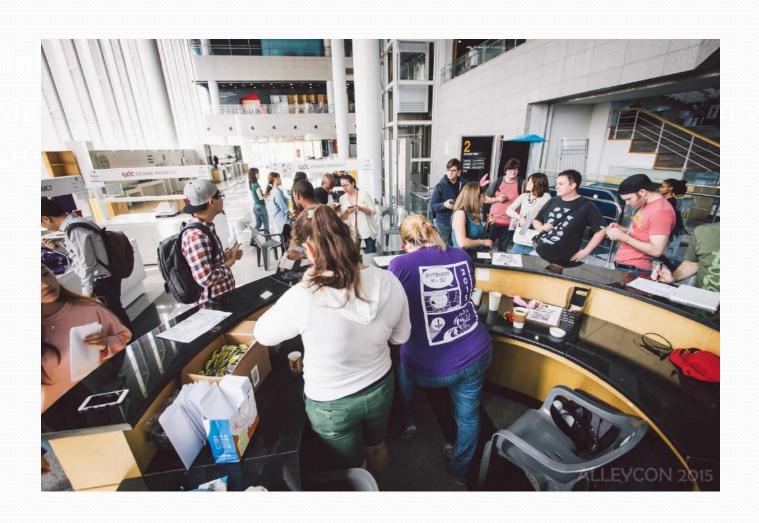
- About 30 students volunteered
- 3 Korean professors/adults volunteered
- Students got over their fear of "the many"
- Students formed a more positive perception of foreigners
- Students experienced a geeky culture event
- The students had FUN!
- One student got a (boy)friend
- Several students met their volunteer hour goals for their scholarships
- We were able to provide a unique experience for my students to get to talk to native English speakers, in an all-English work environment, practice their English, and make friends.
- Only one "complaint" about subject matter

Considerations for the students

- Non-profit event
- Students got certificates
- Students got breaks
- Students got food
- Students got to request where to work
- Students got discount coupons for food
- Students got special free food coupons just for volunteers
- Students got to see me dress up silly
- Students got to meet my husband. ©

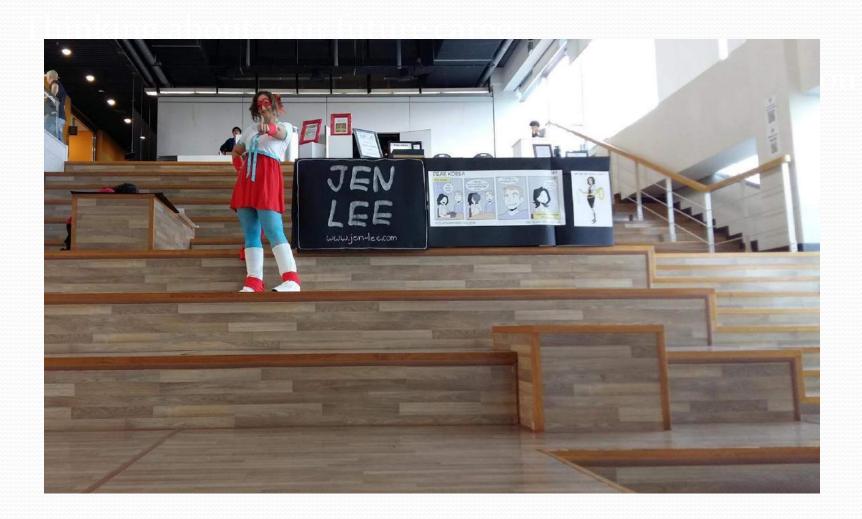
Alleycon 2015

- Maybe 10 student volunteered
- Students got certificates
- Students got shirts
- Students got mugs
- I was at the event
- Some students came looking for Alleycon to volunteer









Branching out

Interview class--again

Why I did it-students

- Students needed volunteer experience for their resumes
- Students could practice their English
- Students could get pictures for their portfolios
- Students were interested in the event-their major

Why I did it-event

- Biggest GPP production ever
- 50 actors needed makeup, costumes, and hair done

Considerations

- Non-profit event
- I knew people involved
- Suitable subject matter
- On another school property

The outcome—for students

- Great shots to keep in their portfolios
- Actual real-life experience for their major
- One girl got a job offer for future makeup sessions from a photographer

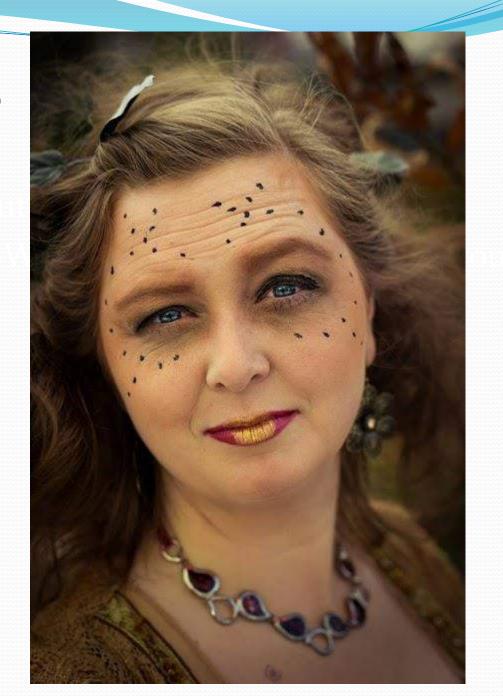








The outcome-for GPP









Next Step:

More!!!

Next Step:

Examine other local foreigner club/organizations in Gwangju where my students can get involved.

We have a lot . . .

- Adopt a Child fundraising/volunteerism
- Sungbin Home for Girls tutoring
- Mdream Classes/activities
- Clothing Swap
- Open Mic Night
- GPP
- GIC
- Toastmasters
- PechaKucha

- Kotesol/TESOL-
 - -Attend meetings
 - -Do a "swap" short presentation
- Plays
- Art Classes at GIC
- GIC Talk
- Gwangju News writing
- Gwangju Blog writing
- Stitch and Bitch
- And many more~

Considerations-for the students

- Students Non-profit organization
- Safe environment
- Touch base with leader/volunteer coordinator
- •Match students' abilities and majors with event for maximum benefit
- Get certificates for volunteer hours
- Doesn't have to be volunteer event—just English-using event
- Provide a place for students to see events coming up
- Give extra credit in English class for participation

Make sure that you are really helping your students through this experience

Considerations-for you

- Make sure that you can answer for why your students get involved in that experience
- Let your office manager and others know that you are doing it
- Show your work



Any questions?

Don't miss it!

See her work at dearkoreacomic.com

