



### SI 2020 Project Team / Young SKAL SI World Congress 2015 Meeting Report

**Report Date** : 11/17/2015

**Meeting Date(s)** : 10/29/2015 and 10/31/2015

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#### Meeting @ 10/29/2015

At the first YS Meeting all YS attendees have introduced their background and provided brief information about their current membership at the local club.

All YS in participation have listed Common Reasons and Advantages of becoming a YS;

- Meeting New People – Networking
- Possible future internship/ Job Opportunities through Network
- Scholarships/ Financial Aid available

The YS in participation have listed the following challenges they are facing within their local club;

- Lack of formal/ consistent communication format with other YS and Club members
- Lack of occasions to meet as YS members
- Lack of mentorship within local Club which leads to YS not feeling a part of the local Club/ organization
- Lack of Common Projects
- Membership Retention; some clubs with high YS members lose members after one year due to lack of interest to continue
- Slow Application Approval Process

#### Meeting @ 10/31/2015

- This meeting request has come from the YS attendees; it was an informal group meeting where I was asked to inform on the vision for YS in 2020 and on type of activities they could be involved in their local club to gain more visibility in their local club, retain YS members/ recruit new YS members/ type of fundraising events they could be involved.
- They all made notes; asked specific questions on suggestions I made in terms of;
  - o recruitment strategies to follow in local universities / at work environment for those who work



- Fundraising practices; how to raise money for the YS members so they can participate more in SKAL national and international events
- How to set up a formal communication in between YS in local club
- Prepare a yearly plan at the begin of each year and follow closely with supervision of the Local Board

Based on these points discussed with Young SKAL attendees during the 2015 SI World Congress; YS 2020 Committee suggests followings;

- Continuing Promoting YS with the main common advantages listed above by all YS's;
  - By preparing a common YS presentation for all YS's to be used at their recruitment efforts
  - Prepare Guideline for all SKAL clubs around the globe on how to start YS club and how to develop/ grow YS Club with emphasis of organizing fundraising events; fundraising events organized for a cause of supporting education/ development of a young generation always brings success; this will be a win-win situation for all; the funds raised can be used for a scholarship fund/ some expenses towards membership development of the Club in general not only YS and other projects / incentives that can lead to more PR for the local Club and SKAL in general
- Prepare Orientation Booklet/ Manual for Local Clubs to be used for new members including YS's; this way they will adapt faster to the club/ organization and feel more welcome
- Introduce Mentorship Program to SKAL Clubs; this is existing in some clubs but should be officially emphasized and reintroduced with YS development; every club can select mentors within their own and assign them to each new member (not only YS) that will assist them with questions about SKAL in general/ procedures etc. for the first 6 to 12 months of their membership; this would help not only YS's but all new members feel more welcome/ understand SKAL better and feel a part of it faster and stronger. This would assist with membership retention. The mentors could be selected from mainly retired members; this way they would be engaged more with the club as some feel disconnected after years as new members come.
- In order to prevent Drop out of the YS members each Club with YS development/ presence should have a yearly agenda set for the YS Group to work on that will consist of social projects, assistance with local club events, local club projects, recruitment planning for new YS etc.

I would like to share a last piece of information; I have participated to YS Webinar within SIUSA on Nov 17, 2015; the topic was on how to start/grow YS movement at the local club. I have made a brief



presentation as attached just giving the basic steps to a Club with no YS experience on how to start the movement. Based on the information shared by other clubs participated in the webinar and questions asked in conjunction with the feedback we had from YS's during the SI World Congress I'd like to share with you my current observation on the status of YS worldwide;

At this time we have **three different status** worldwide;

1. Clubs who have started YS movement 3-5 years ago and now are in advance stage; focus here should be retention and enrichment of YS's involvement in SKAL; and this requires an advance structure to have them set up their own board and annual action plans under the supervision of their chapters main board
2. Clubs who now understand the YS movement; who initiated the development by having a YS Committee and reaching out to local schools to start recruitment but have no further planning/ forecast
3. Clubs who do not know what YS is or why it is important and/or just heard about it and do not know how to start

This status does support our thought for the need of an official structure/ manual of operation for YS that will help all Clubs in three categories described above. I know Ex-COM do agree on the fact that an action plan needs to be in effect to reach the vision set for 2020; I wanted to add this latest observation from the meeting I participated where 20 SKAL Club representatives from USA have taken part.

Thank you and SKAL,

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SIUSA Region IV VP

2020 Project Team/ Skal International

Past President/SKAL International Atlanta - 2014