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7.2 Best Practices

7.2.1 Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual

Response:

Best Practice 1:

Title: Experiential Learning

Objectives of the practice:

1. To expand the students learning horizons beyond the curriculum through hands on experiences with the community at large.
2. To help the students to understand cultural heritage and have a space to express their creativity and talents.
3. To promote confidence building activities, socialization skills so that there is an interface between the institution and communities.
4. To connect the students with other fellow students from the underprivileged communities in the society to inculcate the value of equality.
5. To utilize community as a source of teaching & learning material for the faculty and students.
6. To inculcate the values based on mutual trust, cooperation and understanding with the society.

The Context:

- The introduction of the NEP-2020, pivoting around the aspect of inclusivity in learning boosted by involvement and equal opportunities.
- The evolution in the education is about the usage of new technology to assist and supplement the traditional teaching-learning methods.
- The practice is exercised through extension and outreach programs of NSS, NCC and YRC.
- The outcome based education connects interactive skill based learning with participative and experiential learning. Field trips, projects, industry internships lead to experiential and participative learning, which ensures effective operationalization of the curriculum.
- The training and placement cell exposes the students to employment opportunities by empowering them as job-ready-workforce. Students gain vast experience by the student's council which imparts leadership, organizational skills and team spirit.
- Extension and community services through NSS helped the students to evolve into better citizens with heightened sense of social responsibility and creating awareness about cultural diversity. The Youth Red Cross along with other units has an annual schedule of activities, social ventures like blood group identification and blood donation camps, tree plantation, cleanliness drive, village adoption, swachhata pakwaad and other such community services.

The practice:

The proficiency in soft and communication skills through digital language lab adds to this experiential learning. NSS activities impart knowledge about ground reality of life in the rural society and it helps to develop empathy with the life of rural people. It has given the students a feel of the problems faced by the people of remote area away from urban centres, without having basic civic amenities. The special rural camp build empathy for the poor and oppressed life of the society.

The community engagement is also focused through various cells and sports activities ensuring the involvement of the students in extension and outreach programs.

Evidence of Success:

The success of the overall activities can be evaluated based on the feedback from the students, faculty, alumni and parents. The NSS camps have been successfully organized among the communities in the villages of Vandooru and Santeguli. The length of stay and experiences generates both visible and invisible influence in shaping the outlook of our students.

Problem encountered & resources required:

The involvement of the faculty in NSS activities provide moral support to the students. The meagre resources available for these camps at present cannot meet the requirements. So there is a need to increase the budget allocation to organize these camps. At present the NSS officer approach the members of village Panchayat and some donors to collect the funds.

Best Practice 2:

Title: Environmental Consciousness

Objectives of the practice:

1. To create environmental consciousness within the college campus.
2. To mobilize students towards scientific enquiry into the environmental problems.
3. To involve them in efforts to preserve environment.
4. To motivate the students to imbibe lifestyle for minimum waste generation.
5. To develop environmental ethics among the students community.

The Context:

Green audit is an initiative that contributes to protect the environment of a defined area. A clean environment supports effective learning and provides a inclusive learning environment. Green audit is a kind of professional care that forms the responsibility of each individual. The Bio-club is pioneering this activity work towards an eco-friendly environment in the college, thereby contributing towards saving our planet. Our institution is situated on the lateritic plateau and it is equally a challenging task to develop habitat of biodiversity. Use of energy saving electrical appliances and solid waste management are in practice.

Practice:

1. The college adopted **Green Graduation project**, Swachhata Abhiyan, maintaining greenery, Waste management and Planting of saplings by involving the students. As a part of Green Graduation project, 2020-21 batch CBCS students with Chemistry, Botany, Zoology optionals took this initiative in the provided area. 40 saplings (medicinal and rare species of plants) were planted, protected, watered and nurtured. They studied the taxonomy of the raised plants and documented. The same students will further continue the phyto-chemical study of different plant parts. At the end of the project those students submit the detailed project report and obtain Green Graduation Certificate.
2. **Organized lectures** on environmental issues and harmful effects of plastics.
3. **Energy Conservation** - use of solar water heater in hostel, solar street lights, shifting to LED lights and installation of proper taps to check the leakage and wastage of water are some of the measure to conserve energy.
4. **Plantation** - Every year world environment day is observed.
5. **E-waste & solid waste management** - These wastes generated in the campus is collected and disposed to authorized agencies.
6. **Vermi-composting** - This activity is to enhance the fertility of the soil which is necessary for retention and exchange of water & oxygen.

Evidence of Success:

- Our campus uses solar energy light from 7.00pm to 6.00am.
- R.O. water filter plant caters healthy drinking water for 1000 plus students on regular basis.
- Green graduation is student driven project contributed a lot in maintaining the 'Gift of Green'.
- This project has been instrumental in adding feather to the crown of the college as “District Green Champion” for Uttara Kannada District for the academic year 2021-22 by Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India on 12/03/2022.

Problems Encountered:

- Maintenance of solar power panels and inverters.
- There is a need for massive awareness amongst students, who in turn can spread the message across all sections of the society.

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7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

7.3.1 Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words