



INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

LAXMINARAYAN COLLEGE, JHARSUGUDA

PO- K.M. ROAD, JHARSUGUDA-768202 (ODISHA)

Estd-1969

BEST PRACTICES: 2018-19

Best Practices - I:

Increasing On-time Graduation Rates through Students Retention and Students Engagement

1. Goal

Having been selected under the World Bank Assisted Project of Odisha Higher Education Programme for Excellence and Equity (OHEPEE), our institution has targeted to achieve the second Disbursement-Linked Indicators (DLIs) out of five i.e. to increase on (one)-time graduation rate of the students in undergraduate degree programs through students' retention and students' engagement in improved teaching learning experiences. The key objective of our institution is to provide better learning experiences to the students to check their drop-out rates, control regular absence and provide quality education by giving exposures to beyond classroom activities also. The goal is to help students pass in the first instance without failing in any of the semesters.

1. The Context

In India, especially in Odisha, one time students' success rate in Higher Education, has always been a distant dream. No doubt success depends upon several criteria- teaching quality, study atmosphere, teaching learning tools and materials and, most especially, students' quality and motivation. At our context, on the one hand the rural background hinders students' success. On the other hand, a large number of students, belonging to the business community of the locality, do not attend classes regularly. The second serious issue is that majority of the students coming from vernacular background face difficulties in understanding the subjects while taught in English.

On this context, while designing and implementing the above practice some important steps have been taken to address the above challenges.

2. The Practice

When we speak about the world class educational institutes in India, we forget the grass root problems relating to empower each and every student taking admission in our educational institutions standing in the nooks and corners of every village and every town, just to take the example of our college. As the mission of our College is to provide proper education and help each student to exit from here with a pass certificate so that she/he can get a job or make herself/himself self-employed, we have adopted the above practice. The plan is to achieve a target of one-time graduation rate for all the students within five years by increasing the rate every year through the following implementation strategy:

- Analysis of the previous situations (already done)

- Problems shared and discussed with the faculty members
- Proctorial (mentoring) system was strengthened
- Parents-teachers' meetings were convened and the problems discussed
- Reasons for students' irregular attendance were sorted out
- The weaker students were segregated and remedial classes arranged
- Counselling and guidance service system was strengthened
- Application of ICT in Teaching Learning was given more emphasis
- Question answers discussed and regular assessment was done
- Participation of students in departmental seminars was made compulsory
- Communicative English classes were introduced

3. Evidence of Success

As the Practice has been adopted since the last year the IQAC had taken the initiative of implementing the mentoring of students. Mentoring has long been considered a developmental and retention strategy for undergraduate education. In this system students are divided into groups. Each group is assigned a teacher-mentor who would perform mentoring duties. The mentors are playing an important role in offering guidance and counselling to the students. It is the practice of mentors to meet students individually or in groups. In some cases parents are called for counselling/special meetings with the mentors. If a student is identified as having weakness in particular subject, the mentor has to apprise the concerned subject teacher and thus the students are gradually showing interest in studies. The remedial and tutorial classes have been arranged to enhance the learning quality of students.

Emphasis on making 75% attendance compulsory for each and every student is showing good results. As the IQAC is verifying the cumulative growth of students, it found that there is a hike in student's success rate. Educationally weaker students have started showing interest in attending the classes. Economically poor students have also been identified and are given proper attention. The drop-out rates seem to be minimized in this way.

4. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The problems that the college encountered in the implication of this practice is due to the following reasons:

Our practice of achieving **One-Time Graduation Rates through Students Retention and Students Engagement** really brings a lot of challenges before us. We have been facing a lot of constraints like

- Lack of career orientation among students
- Lack of faculty training regarding counselling and guidance
- Lack of communication skills in English
- Background of Vernacular Education in Secondary level
- Lack of personal motivation by the students
- The students coming from distance places mostly from the nearby villages fail to attend classes on the regular basis.
- The children from agricultural and business communities also miss the classes.

- Need of faculty development training programme on the 'counselling and guidance services'
- Involvement of parents and other concerned stakeholders are required for the success of the practice

Best Practices- II

Extension Services through NSS, NCC and YRC and Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR)

1. Goal

- Inculcating social values and responsibilities in the faculty members and students by imparting extension services through NSS, NCC and YRC in the neighbourhood for holistic development of the society.
- Enriching the society by discharging its Institutional Social Responsibility.

2. The Context

The NSS (both boys and girls) Units of our college has 50 enthusiastic, sincere and dedicated volunteers in each wing under the able guidance of the programme officers.

Both SD Naval Wing and SD Army wings of NCC, L.N College, Jharsuguda with 60 Cadets (SD 50+ SW 10) in each contribute to mass awareness of the society. They take leadership in different community reach extension services. They organize and participate in AIDS awareness rally, Vigilance Awareness week, Plantation, Blood Donation, traffic control, etc.

The Youth Red Cross (YRC) is regarded as the Nodal wing of our district. To serve the destitute, Blood Donation, protection of Environment, Plantation of trees, Road Safety training, fire-fighting training, fighting against AIDS, serving during natural calamities etc. are its main functions.

As the Odisha government has started the programme to impart self-defence training to the college girls of the state, our College has been chosen as the nodal centre for providing self-defence training to girls not only in our college, but also in the other colleges of the district.

The Students Union not only plays a significant role in the decision making process and governance mechanism of the college, but also provides extension services to the community.

Under Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR), the Institution provides help to the community by organizing different district level functions, competitions, etc. on the occasions like Independence Day, Republic Day, etc. The College deputed faculty members to be the judges in district, state and national level science fairs, social science congresses, cultural pageants, etc.

3. The Practice

- Our institution has organized rallies emphasizing clean India program on 31/08/2018 and 02/10/2018.
- From 09/12/2018 to 16/12/2018, the NSS organized a 'Swachhata hi seva' Camp and organized rallies, street plays and plantation programmes at different places of the town. The aim was to create awareness among people.

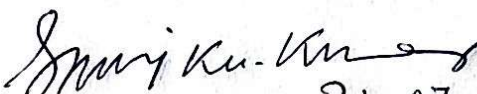
- The NSS volunteer and the NCC cadets worked as the volunteers during the Jharsuguda Utsav from Dt.01/01/2019 to 05/01/2019 as well as during the celebrations of Durga Puja and RathaYatra in the town.
- The NCC cadets helped in the traffic control and created awareness among people during the observation of Road Safety Week.
- The YRC volunteers, participated in the District level Youth Red Cross Camp in the College from dt. 23/01/2019 to dt. 25/01/2019 and demonstrated the safety maneuvers, like fire safety, first aid, etc. before the public.
- The College coordinated the Self-defense Training Programme for the session 2018-19 and hundreds of girl students received training in different colleges of the district of Jharsuguda.
- The College has sponsored faculty members for Loksabha and State Assembly election duty and other community Reach programmes.
- Different inter-school and inter-college competitions were organized on the occasion of National Youth Day, Teachers' Day, Children's Day, Gandhi Jayanti, Vigilance Awareness Week, National Road Safety Week, etc. The college deputed faculty members to different schools, colleges, community centres and government organisations for the smooth conduct of competitions and community based programmes.

4. Evidence of Success

- Evidence of sensitivity and responsibility towards environment and the feeling of "my community my responsibility" among students
- The Community-institution link is benefiting the society
- The neighborhood is intellectually growing due to the involvement of faculty members in the dissemination of knowledge and information
- Different functions in the town and nearby community have been successful due to the voluntary services provided by the students and members of staff

5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Organizing various programmes during working hours, sometimes, has led to sacrificing the class work.
- Safety of girls in the programmes like traffic control, voluntary services during car festival, Durga Puja, etc.
- No specific funds for organizing major camps adopting villages, etc.
- Cooperation from the management and grants of funds from the government required


IQAC co-ordinator 31.07.2019


Principal/Chair person
Laxminarayana College
Jharsuguda
31.07.2019