



INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

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LAXMINARAYAN COLLEGE, JHARSUGUDA

BEST PRACTICES: 2019-20

Best Practices - I:

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

1. Goal

As It was in the last year, this practice has also been adopted in this year. 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

Fostering Talents through Encouraging Students Participation in Extra-curricular Activities

1. Goal

Academics is typically an acquired matter, however every child is gifted with a special talent. But not many can truly recognize it. Extracurricular activities encourage students to bring out their talent in the limelight and give it wings in the right direction.

Integrating extracurricular activities with students’ academic life can also help them to manage their time and set priorities and widen their perspective about the world at large. Many students who excel in non-academic field also get special scholarships and better chances of securing admissions into universities.

Academics and extracurricular activities go hand in hand to raise well rounded individuals and independent learners. It is imperative that we provide our children with an environment that fosters their overall personality and not just the academic growth.

2. The Context

Today, the mounting pressure of CBCS has made our students lose interest in hobbies and other enrichment activities. We rarely get time to encourage our students to pursue their dreams and passions outside the classroom activities. Instead the focus is primarily on completing courses and preparing them for the university examinations.

However we, in Laxminarayan College, Jharsuguda, have adopted it as one of the best practices to foster talents through encouraging students’ participation in extra-curricular activities. We involve students not only in the classroom activities like presenting papers in the seminars, participating in the group discussions, etc in order to draw out the best talents in them. Besides these we also create cultural atmosphere outside the classroom so that students can chose recreational and creative avenues for themselves.

As we celebrate significant days of the year like birth anniversaries of the great personalities of national and international repute, NCC day, NSS day, National Red Cross Day, Universal Brotherhood day, Hindi Divas, International Non-violence day, National Constitution Day, etc. and involve students in organizing the days. Students participate as the anchors, speakers, moderators, and by which learn the qualities of leadership, involvement, management etc.

Throughout the year we organize different competitions in different occasions. Sponsor students to participate in different district, state and national level competitions. A large number of students participate in the several competitions organized during the Annual Cultural Fest. They show their talents in drawing and painting, pot making, craft making, rangoli, essay writing, declamation, elocution, debate, song, dance, ppt presentation, mono acting, drama, story writing, poem writing, slogan and poster making, quiz and many more. We select the Cultural Champion and the Runner’s Up

which creates a competitive atmosphere and a large number of students participate in it.

Being the nodal college, our institution hosts several district level events on the occasion of Independence Day, Republic Day, Odisha Divas, Vigilance Awareness Week, etc. Our students get participation opportunities.

Both SD Naval Wing and SD Army wings of NCC 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) encourages participation in all these activities. The NSS (Boys and Girls wings) is fostering the talents of the students by involving them in social service, community reach programmes through their participation in camps, street plays, rallies, etc.

The Students Union plays a vital role in the decision making process and governance mechanism of the college. Students being involved in it learn the leadership qualities.

3. The Practice

The following table shows the practice in the college.

Date	Event	No. of participants
01-07-19	Blood donation camp by Youth Red Cross (YRC) in association with "The Samaj"	102
15-07-19	Celebration of World Youth Skills Day-opening of a Student Support, Guidance, Skills Enhancement and Placement Unit in the College- Army Recruitment Awareness Camp	152
25-07-19	Observation of "Vanomahotsav" by NSS and NCC	86
29-07-19	celebration of "Kargil Vijay Divas" by NCC (Army and Naval)	67
18-08-19	Celebration of 50th foundation Day of College- a plantation program has been organised in collaboration with the Sambad Sahitya Ghara, Jharsuguda.	228
07-09-19	Celebration of Gangadhar Meher Jayanti	92
11-09-19	Celebration of Universal Brotherhood Day commemorating Swami Vivekananda's Chicago Speech	104
14-09-19	Celebration of Hindi Diwas	87
27-09-19	Open seminar on "Swachhata-The way ahead" by SD Naval Wing NCC	83
02-10-19	Celebration of "150th Gandhi Jayanti" and Shastri Jayanti	94
19-10-19	District Level Inter-college Declamation competition on the topic "Patriotism and Nation Building" organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra in collaboration with L. N. College, Jharsuguda.	58
29-10-19	Inauguration of Self Defense Training Programme for Girls for the session 2019-20	112

01-11-19	Inauguration of the Integrity Club and Observation of Vigilance Awareness Day 2019-20	86
06-11-19	Organised a Quiz on 'Safal Yuba Yuba Bharat' on the occasion of 100 years completion of the Rock Memorial of Swami Vivekananda at Kanyakumari	59
26-11-19	Observation Of National Constitution Day and taking the Pledge	78
21-12-19	Workshop on "Health and Safety for Women"	126
20-01-20	Debate Competition on 10th National Voter's Day on theme "Electoral literacy for strong democracy"	32
25-01-20	Quiz Competition on Constitution of India	62
12-02-20	Organisation of a "Mock Parliament" on the topic 'Citizenship Amendmend Act' in association with Neheru Yuba Kendra, New Delhi	151
22-02-20	Observation of Biswa Matrubhasa Divas	69

4. Evidence of Success

- Ms. Aditi Agrawal, +3 2nd Science, participated in the District and state level Inter-college Declamation competition on the topic "Patriotism and Nation Building" organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra and represented the state in the national level.
- Our College stood first in the discipline category in the state level drama competition. Mr. Debashish and Mr. Ghanashyam got the best actor and the best comedy actor awards.
- The NCC cadets controlled traffic during the public festivals and Dulduli (the five days Jharsuguda Folk Fair)

5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- 100 percent participation of students is not yet possible.
- 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.



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