

7.3.1 BEST PRACTICE - I

1. TITLE OF THE PRACTICE

Job-Oriented Add-On Courses

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE

The objective of the practice is to meet the rural students' prospect of entrepreneurship and employability through skill-based, job-oriented add-on courses and to ensure better opportunities and placement for the students and to help the student learn skills and information that will help them to future success.

- ❖ To help students identify their goals and guide them to achieve the same.
- ❖ To help the students to understand the opportunities present in the college and develop a smooth transition to campus life.

3. THE CONTEXT

Employability and Entrepreneurial Development are the need of the hour for national development. It is a common fact that most of the students, hailing from the rural areas are not conscious about their career. We always get to hear that the students are not industry-ready. They think about it only after graduation. The management and the staff deliberated on this issue and came up with this idea. In the context of repeated findings that a large percentage of Indian degree holders are unemployable, the Management was of the opinion that some more job-oriented courses may be initiated. Apart from the teaching of the traditional courses, it is necessary to impart knowledge. In response, the college has introduced job-oriented diploma and certificate courses as add-on courses, with the objective of enhancing prospects for employability of the students. These add-on courses make the students to plan about their future to get into business areas and also for students prepare for competitive exams.

4. THE PRACTICE

The Departments of Biochemistry and Microbiology offer PG Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (PGDMLT) and Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (DMLT – 1 and 2 Years) in affiliation with All India Medical Laboratory Technologists' Association

(AIMLTA), Patna. The fact that these courses got good response from the students can be ascertained from the numbers of students enrolled in the courses.

The Department of Computer Science and Applications is offering Diploma in Core JAVA course to the students. As the course is certified, it provides excellent job opportunities for the students in various IT fields. The department is also conducting coaching classes and aptitude classes for the benefit of students.

The Department of Commerce is offering ICAI Foundation Class in association with ICAI Ranipet Chapter. ICAI (Institute of Cost Accountants of India) course motivates and helps the students to pursue a career path as auditors. These courses have enhanced the employability skills of the students.

The Department of Business Administration is conducting a Course in TALLY in association with Apollo institute Arcot, Ranipet district, for the students of B.Com and B.B.A. This course, along with the basic knowledge of accountancy they gained in their degree courses helps the students to get better placement opportunities.

Apart from these, the students are encouraged to appear for Typewriting examinations conducted by the state government.

- ❖ The type-writing course has been designed in student-centric manner that the students get absorbed in various fields as soon as they complete the course.
- ❖ Designed specifically for those with no formal writing training, this course starts with finger placement and provides an overview of how to type various letters, numbers, and symbols quickly, accurately and without looking at the keyboard.
- ❖ Typing eventually came to be recognized as a skill of wide general utility, better-known as typing for personal use.
- ❖ The need for typographic writing courses for personal use developed, and typographic writing courses for personal use are offered at our college.
- ❖ Students are rated for speed and accuracy. In addition, students must use correct grammar, punctuation, and language.
- ❖ Typing promotes language skills, develops positive habits and benefits students through compositional skills.

- ❖ Those who are pursuing a career in a secretarial or administrative position where the ability to type quickly and accurately is required.

For this purpose free typewriting coaching classes are provided for all the UG students with the provision of one hour per week in their time table. Student beneficiaries have found better placement opportunities as a result of this innovative practice.

5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

Students from rural backgrounds find these courses very useful. The success can be ascertained from the continued support and enrollment of the students in these courses. Also the placement of students has considerably increased. Also the students who have undergone these courses have found placement in good companies, and these students are advising their junior students to join these courses. These students are also helping their juniors by informing them of vacancies available in their organizations and help them to get placement. It is quite impressive that many of the participants have fared well in placement interviews.

6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED

The initial problem faced was convincing the students of the usefulness of these courses. Many of the students are found to be less motivated and focused because of the lack of awareness of the vast changes in the cities and the demands of the emerging job markets. As most of the students are from rural under-privileged society, they found it difficult to pay the extra fee for these courses. The coordinators of the courses spoke to the students and convinced them that these courses will increase the employability and the course fee was kept to minimum possible, so that these fee amounts should not be considered as an additional burden for those students. After the slow success of this initiative, students voluntarily came forward to mark their presence. The problem of requiring additional class rooms to conduct these classes on regular working days was managed by conducting these classes on Saturdays.

7. NOTES

The College is making a fine step for under privileged students in a good position, which might improve not only them but their family too. The College had found the success of this practice very useful for placing the rural under-privileged students in a better position.

College is planning to introduce more such courses and to enroll maximum number of students in these courses specially in introducing Short hand writing and Tamil typewriting too.

7.3.2 BEST PRACTICE - II

1. TITLE OF THE PRACTICE

Uplift of Rural Under-Privileged Society Through Extension Activities

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE

The objective of the practice is to strive for the uplift of the local rural under-privileged society by organizing the extension activities of the College in those areas and raise the sanitation, education and general livelihood of the society.

3. THE CONTEXT

Kalavai is situated in a remote rural area of Ranipet district, a backward district. Agriculture is the major source of income in this area. The area is yet to be developed in terms of infrastructure, sanitation, education, and livelihood. As per the Vision and Mission of our College, the students are being motivated to serve the local society through the extension activities, leading to the uplift of the local society.

4. THE PRACTICE

The extension activities provide the students an opportunity to observe and involve in the neighbourhood development thereby contributing to nation building. They also involve taking students to villages, by which they gain social awareness, involve in community development activities.

The women's cell works to ensure a safe work environment, and to provide a mechanism for looking into situations of sexual harassment in the workplace. Any issues relating to sexual harassment at the workplace can be brought to any of these members in confidence. Women's cell of Adhiparasakthi College of Arts and Science has organized various programs to empower female students of the college. They work with female students' skill development such as poem,

singing, safety tricks and vegetable carving. Women cell encourages the female students to be aware of different kinds of violence: sexual harassment, physical and mental stress.

In the NSS Special Camps held every year, about 150 NSS volunteers participated and cleaned and whitewashed the school buildings, noon meal scheme centre, Balvadi, Panchayat office and the local temples, cleared bushes on the sides of the village roads and around the bore wells, leveled the area to avoid water stagnation, leveled the roads, planted tree saplings, conducted literary programmes, formed a playground and conducted a free Medical Camp in association with Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Hospital and Research Centre, Melmaruvathur, an awareness campaign on the importance of public health and the importance of hospital treatment during pregnancy period etc. The NSS units distributed note books, slates, geometry boxes, pencils and pens to the school children, plates, tumblers, fan and plastic chairs to the Noon meal scheme center, plastic chairs and steel rack to the Schools.

Medical Camps such as Eye screening camp, Screening of Anemia for school children and Blood Grouping Programme for school children have also been conducted. Blood Donation Camps have been organized by NSS and RRC, in collaboration with Government Hospital, Adukkamparai, Vellore, and Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore. HIV/AIDS Awareness programmes and Celebrating Life programmes with RRC Manager have been organized annually by RRC. Sports materials and computers have been donated to schools. Covid vaccination drive was conducted in our college for the benefit of students and staff.

Consumer club educates students about the rights of the consumers as provided in Consumer Protection Act, 1986. To provide an understanding of the interrelationship between economic analysis and the problems of the society for example, the energy crisis, inflation, poverty, environmental concerns, crime, international trade, taxation, racism, big business, and big labor. Consumer club from Adhiparasakthi College of Arts and Science has organized various activities such as World Population Day and World Consumer Day to make students aware of these.

Tree plantation camps have been organized at College campus by NSS and Enviro club. Awareness programmes on First Aid, Health and Science for School students, Dengue Fever awareness were conducted by the departments and cells / clubs. Rallies to create awareness on World AIDS day and Voting have been conducted.

Enviro Club of Adhiparasakthi college of Arts and Science were formulated to create awareness on environmental issues and the need for the environmental protection. Enviro Club has conducted many programs such as Poster presentation on water conservation under the guidelines of “Jal Sakthi Abhiyan”. Oral and drawing competition organized by Jal Sakthi Abhiyan and Arcot Block Development office along with APCAS and APCE and Road safety program. Voters awareness programmes, observance of Marty’s day silence to pay the tribute to the leaders who laid the foundation during independence fight. “Nali Talim” program was conducted based on Gandhian principle. He defined education of children as Education for life and education through life. Nali-Talim also known as Buniyadi Shikshan means basic education. This focus on the education of children and medium of instruction of education should be in mother tongue, our institute planted trees at the Government School, Arumbakkam, Ranipet district and staff members gave a lecture on the importance of this program. Awareness lecture was conducted for the safety precaution measures from spreading of corona

These activities in this rural remote area has helped the College to reach out to the under-privileged and to create better awareness of issues related to health and nutrition, hygiene, environmental protection, civic responsibilities, gender and human rights both within the campus and in the community. This, in turn, has contributed to the holistic development of students and sustained community development.

5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

College has collaborated with the local service agencies that serve the society, thereby has promoted partnership and networking. The annual seven day NSS camps conducted in selected villages has created a healthy relationship between the College and the community. Recognizing that women and children are one of the most susceptible sections of society, the health and hygiene of women and children has been given prime importance in the annual camps conducted in villages by the NSS units. Free medical camps and awareness programmes on health-related issues has sensitized women and brought them out of their ignorance.

Tutoring rural school children has enabled them to develop higher cognitive skills and experience the joy of learning. Exhibitions, programmes and competitions conducted by various departments for school children have motivated students from less-privileged background to pursue Higher Education.

The College has promoted a well knit College-Neighbourhood network in which students have acquired service training. Such training contributes not only to sustained community development but also ensures value addition to these programs.

The College has ensured involvement of the community in its outreach activities by identifying local leaders and seeking their help in organizing medical, literacy and social awareness programmes, in identifying vulnerable groups and in offering empowerment programmes for under-privileged communities. This has resulted in reducing the gap between the educated and the illiterates considerably through the frequent visits and interactions between the staff and students of the College and the villagers.

6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED

The people of the rural area were initially not willing to cooperate with the College in the extension activities. The conveners of the various clubs / cells discussed with the local leaders of the community and allayed their fears and convinced them that these extension activities will be of great help in improving their community and villages. The next problem encountered concerned the identification of the needs of the local community. Once these problems were solved, the Principal and Vice-Principal coordinated with the conveners of the clubs / cells and the HoDs, and framed a time table for various activities that can be carried out in these villages. The resources required for these practices were provided by the Management.

7. NOTES

The Communities have given a positive feedback about this practice, and also as the students have been motivated to service and transform the society into a better one. Hence the College is planning to carry out these activities with more frequency.