

Best Practice 1: Social Outreach Program

Goal: To involve students in some sort of social service activities thereby sensitizing them to the needs, problems and lifestyle of special population; to inculcate in the students a sense of environmental responsibility so as to make them responsible environment conscious citizens.

The context: Besides college education, students must be aware of their social responsibilities. They need to come out of their comfort zone and experience the hardship of the poor, marginalized, underprivileged section of the society.

The practice:

A. List of social work activities – teaching and coordinating programs with disadvantaged and special children, working in orphanages, assisting in aged homes, hospitals and NGOs working for environmental issues.

B. At the end of the academic year, students submit a report of their experience along with their certificates.

Evidence of success:

A. All the participating students were issued SOP certificates from ICOR.

B. Many students forged bonds of friendship especially with the children they worked with and have even decided to go back to these centres during their vacations.

C. Student Presentations of year-end reports which involves a candid sharing of views of the SOP experience reveal the real value of the programme

Problems encountered and resources required: Managing over 500 students and placing them in various centres, coordinating and supervising the work of each student besides managing lectures and other activities throughout the year.

Best Practice 2: LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMME for First year students (FYBA & FYBCom)

Goal: to enable our students to develop the life skills necessary for personal happiness as well as professional success.

The context: It was felt that students needed to be equipped with the ability to know and understand themselves and the world around so as to be able to withstand the pressures and challenges of social media in an increasingly globalized world.

The practice: Sessions were conducted by experts on the following topics – Emotional Intelligence, Addiction, and Making Choices.

Evidence of success:

A. On an average, 30-50% students attended the sessions from each class.

B. Students became aware of the concept of Emotional Intelligence. It also help them to use emotional information as a guide to thinking and behaviour and also to manage / adjust emotions across environments/ goals. The session on drug addiction gave them an opportunity to listen to inmates who were in rehabilitation for drug abuse. Students were particularly pleased with the session on 'Making Choices' conducted by Deacon Ivan, whose dynamism enthused students, and helped them realize the importance of making the right choices at the right time.

Problems encountered and resources required: Since these sessions are conducted with large classes, the Conference Room was the best choice. However, it was quite difficult to get the room since it was often booked for other college activities. In such cases, we had to fall back on G1, but it wasn't as satisfactory an experience as having the sessions in the AV room. Also, though students were told that it was compulsory for them to attend the sessions, in view of the fact that no disciplinary action was taken against those who did not attend, students preferred to avoid the latter sessions.

Best Practice 3: VALUE EDUCATION SESSION for Third Year students (TYBA & TYBCom)

Goal: To examine the need and necessity of ethics in our daily lives and to visualize problems and decisions from a moral perspective which will enable them to develop values for healthy personality development.

The context: It was felt that students needed to be equipped with the ability to know and understand ethical values to set up their own moral code of conduct. This would enable them to master the work ethics of the globalized world at the individual, family and social level.

The practice: Sessions were conducted by experts on the following topics –, Ethics, Leadership, Relationships.

Evidence of success: The value education sessions were wholesome and an enlightening experience. The lessons learnt will be treasured and helpful throughout life. 6. Problems encountered and resources required: There was difficulty in booking the conference room according to specific requirements.