

Best Practices I

1. Title: “Women empowerment through Entrepreneurial and Employability Skill Development”

2. Objectives :

- To motivate students to take up self-employment or entrepreneurship as one of their career options.
- To earn while learn
- To understand the procedure involved in setting up a small enterprise
- Develop and strengthen the entrepreneurial traits i.e. motivation or need for achievement.

3. The Context:

Students possess vocational skills which need to be identified and motivated. ‘Besant Skill Development Centre’ has been set up in the college to hone the talents of such students. Sewing helps to develop fine motor skills, improves focus and concentration and teaches the importance of patience and self-control. Tailoring is one such skill through which the girls can get employment in the garment factory or they can even start a self-employment at home with meagre amount of investment. There is a demand for stitching of clothes throughout the year. Discarded fabrics dumped haphazardly cause pollution and unhealthy environment. Training is offered to the students to recycle or reuse the discarded fabric, preparing decorative items from waste so that environment is protected. Inter-class competitions and intercollegiate fests help the students to showcase their skills, creativity and talents, leading to enhanced opportunity for employment. Students can make a career using acting and dancing skills for which they are trained.

4. The Practice:

Skill development training programmes aim at providing skills to improve employability, building confidence and earn income to achieve economic and social independence by empowering the young women. Associations/cells/clubs are entrusted with the responsibility of conducting training programmes which include Certificate course, workshops, demonstrations, hands on training, competitions, awareness lectures for enhancing employability skills. Implementation of the plan of action is monitored by IQAC.

5. Evidence of Success:

An initiative was taken by an Alumna and few present students to stitch the college uniforms of Besant Institutions at ‘Besant Skill Development Centre’ under the auspices **Innovation Club**. The Certificate course in Tailoring to enhance the skills of cutting, designing and stitching of outfits including college uniforms provided an opportunity for the students, teaching and non-teaching staff, Alumni students and other interested women to make use of the high-end sewing machines available in the centre. Few students and staff who were trained at the centre purchased the machines and are continuing tailoring at home. The innovation club also organised a training programme of preparing eco-friendly bags by using old jeans pants or T-shirts. Garland making competition was also held for the students. Quiz of the day competition was conducted regularly to improve general knowledge.

Celebration of 'Green Day' by wearing green outfits, decoration of class according to the theme, and participation in 'Best Photography' competition promoted environmental consciousness. Medicinal plants and herbs oriented the students about the medicinal properties and their use. Beautification and artistic skill training programmes like flower arrangement, preparation of ear rings, bracelets and anklets, fabric jewellery making, cushion cover making, wallet making by using tetra packets have been undertaken by the EDP Cell and chocolate, biscuit making and cake baking by the Women Cell have opened up career options for the students.

Food Fest organised by the Home Science Department and the Intercollegiate fest 'BEQUEST' is a platform to acquire marketing and interactive skills.

6. Problems encountered and Resource required:

- Financial constraint for organizing programmes and payment to resource persons.
- Skill Development programmes or certificate courses becomes an arduous task has students give priority to academics.
- Class work may have to be compromised due to skill development programmes.
- Causes inconvenience to the students coming from hinterland during holidays and beyond working hours.
- The nominal registration fee charged for the Certificate courses is an additional expense.

Best Practices II

1. Title : Inculcation of Traditional and Cultural values

2. Objectives :

In tune with the Vision and Mission, the college adopts non discriminative policy of admitting all students who seek admission, inspires a deep sense of pride for the nation by inculcating traditional and cultural values with the following objectives :

- Providing an opportunity for the students to celebrate traditional festivals which are losing importance due to modernisation.
- Familiarising the richness of Indian and local culture and to keep the traditions alive among the younger generation.
- Creating awareness on nutritional value of various food items, the rituals observed and significance of the festivals.
- To bring out the multifaceted potentials of students by involving them in cultural activities.
- To provide a platform for budding artists and be a catalyst for overall personality development by grooming the students for their future career and life.

3. The Context:

- Promoting good aspects of the different culture in academic institutions is a learning experience for the students.
- It is an opportunity for students to appreciate, respect and participate in festivals of all religions.
- Promotes harmony among different sections of students, bridging the linguistic and regional barriers.

- They are the most effective way of bringing the youth together on the same platform.

4. The Practice:

Culture is the foundation of education, good governance and sustainable development. Student learning is grounded on the unique values, norms, cultural beliefs, knowledge, practices, heritage, language, experiences of the community. Applying cultural values nurtures the sense of belonging, identity and strengthens community participation. Cultural heritage is not only about antiques but also about new objects, practices, and places which hold cultural value. Preserving the cultural memory will lead to a greater understanding of the nation, society and community. The influential facts of education on culture are: preservation of culture, transmission of culture, promotion of culture and equipping man to adapt to the changing cultural patterns and moulding his personality. Culture paves the way for education while education is responsible for flavouring the cultural values in life. Our Culture and philosophies need to be respected by studying and practicing.

In order to achieve these objectives the college has strengthened Folk culture club, 'Benaaka'-a Drama Troupe, Fine Arts association and Intercollegiate association with a faculty member as coordinator and a student secretary. These cells provide an opportunity to the students to imbibe traditional and cultural values by organising myriad programmes and celebration of festivals. To mention a few : 'Aatida Onji Koota'- a traditional festival, Staged Theatre Dramas, dance performances and conducted competitions on the preparation / making of traditional cultural food items and articles. The students also participated in various intercollegiate competitions and won prizes. Workshops, interactive sessions, visit to historical places and guest lectures are also organised.

The programmes and activities helps students overcome stage fear and builds confidence and self-esteem. They also learn to manage time effectively, acquire leadership skills and sense of responsibility.

The coordinators and the members are responsible for the execution of the programmes in consultation with external agencies, Academicians, Famous Writers, Artists, Actors, Research Scholars including Government agencies

5. Evidence of Success:

'Aatida Onji Koota' – a traditional festival is celebrated in the college by the Folk Culture Club on 8th August 2019 by pouring rice on a traditional rice measurement vessel called 'Kalase' to commemorate the arrival of 'Kalinja' – a spirit who comes to protect the people from all the bad omens like diseases, bacteria, flood etc. Aati is an inauspicious month as per the Tulu Calendar which falls during rainy season of July-August. The students prepare and bring the different nutritious dishes of Tulu Nadu cuisine laid out for "Aatida Onji Koota"- (A gathering in the month of Aashaada) and exhibit in a traditional way. Later dishes are served to all. 68 students participated in preparing the Aati dishes. There is a belief that Aati cuisines are medicinal and good for health during mansoons that makes people vulnerable to ill health. The significance of the occasion and the folklores unknown to the present younger generation was explained by the resource person.

'Benaaka'- The Drama Troupe staged dramas and street plays on environmental protection, participated in competitions and won prizes.

The members of Fine Arts Association displayed their talents during the Fresher's Day, Student Council Inauguration, Founder's Day and Founder President Sri. Manel Srinivas Nayak's birth anniversary celebrations. They also presented a beautiful patriotic dance

programme in the Town Hall, Mangalore in connection with the Independence Day Celebrations, organized by –The Dakshina Kannada District Administration, the Departments of Kannada and Culture, Public Education and Kannada Sahithya Parishath .

6. Problems encountered and Resource required:

- Availability of funds to organize the programmes
- Dearth of Resource persons proficient in culture / tradition.
- Non encouragement by the parents to participate in cultural activities because of fear of poor performance in academics
- Coordinating the programme, getting support from all the faculty members and students is a challenging task.
- Due to time constraint, if the practice sessions are conducted during the working hours students cannot attend the regular class work.
- It is difficult to convince the parents, to make their wards stay in the college beyond workings hours for participating in cultural activities, as most of the students come from the neighboring state of Kerala and other far off places.