

7.2.1 - Best Practices

Best Practice - 1

1. Title of the Best Practice: Feedback system and action plan

2. The Context:

Students, the prime stakeholders, have their own set of priorities and needs. Insensitivity to them may render the educational effort of the institution partially ineffective. An assessment of their perceptions is necessary for imaginative planning and effective performance. Hence the need to obtain their feedback. Primarily, the context was much felt need to: Bring about improvement in teaching-learning process Update the knowledge facilities, infrastructure to the needs of the time Reframe the existing curriculum to suit the demand for newer courses.

3. The objectives:

- To elicit precisely the needs of the students.
- To ascertain the gap between the genuine expectations of the students and the existing reality.
- To plan and implement the expected changes effectively in every field of the institution and its activities.

4. The practice:

The dates to get feedback are fixed at the beginning of the academic year. Feedback is collected twice a year. The collected information undergoes a process of analysis based on the standard parameters of NAAC. To make the feedback comprehensive the college has Grievance Redressal Cell and the Placement Cell. The analysis of the data is verified by the Review Committee comprising of the representative of management and a member of faculty. After due review of the analysed data steps to be taken are discussed and implemented. This leaves no genuine grievance go unnoticed by the institution.

5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them:

The practice is well received

6. Impact of the practice:

Actions taken based on feedback have resulted in success on the practice many fronts. Various other companies approaching the college to provide trained students. Career Development and Communication Skills certificate course. Understanding on the students priority was enhanced. Infrastructure requirements were addressed. Remedial students, remedial classes conducted during the last two years.

7. Resources required:

The financial assistance from the Management, Alumni Association, Alumni Scholarships, UGC Development Grants and Grants for Remedial Coaching is the sources to meet the

administrative expenses. There is a strong support from the faculty in analysing the feedback and in interpreting it. Students' positive reception of the changes implemented is really a true resource in itself.

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Best Practice - 2

1. Title: Janapada Otsava: Honouring Cultural Heritage

2. Goal:

To make the students revisit their cultural roots, appreciate the past glory of our region through the folk festival of Janapada otsava. To familiarize students and faculty with customs, rituals and lifestyles of our ancient village folk so that we honour our cultural heritage and wisdom therein even as we live our lives as modern, global citizens.

3. The context:

The college encourages its students to become skilled, employable graduates ready to face the challenges of a globally competitive life. This is facilitated through ICT based teaching-learning, sophisticated infrastructure, vibrant sports culture, excellent cultural platforms to display talents, etc. However, the institution also emphasises greatly on honouring our roots by respecting the goodness of our bygone civilizations. To fulfil this mission we conducted the folk festival, Janapadaotsava by organizing a cultural extravaganza which showcases the traditional practices, life styles, cuisine and ceremonies of our ancestors which are known to us today through folklore, which is called “Janapada” in Kannada. The Janapada is an important genre of Kannada literature which depicts the lives, rituals, hardships and the joys of simple villagers of the bygone era.

4. The Practice:

The Janapada Otsava is celebrated in the institution usually in the month of March by inviting various college students to participate in the culture events of Karnataka resembles. The faculty and students successfully recreate the ambience of Janapada by organizing one-day events which give us a glimpse of the glorious past. Village ethos is re-created on the campus during the event. Karnataka is rich in its Janapada dance forms like “veeraghase kunitha”, “Dollu kunitha”, “Yakshagana”, “kolaata”, Nandi Dhawaja Kunitha, Kamsale, Karadi Majalu, stilt walking, dances by masked dancers, etc and various dance troupes both by students as well as external professional groups perform them. All areas of Janapada lifestyle are displayed during the event like the typical Janapada household, farming tools, traditional cookware, rangoli decorations on the floor, the milling stone used to make flour, butter milk churner, the cattle grazing, etc. The colourful and vibrant village market is showcased. The traditional games played during those times, the costumes and jewellery worn by the people, the rituals performed by them are exhibited. The conventional cuisine of the times is displayed by an array of typical Janapada food sold in a series of stalls which is of great attraction for the onlookers. Students make good profit by selling these snacks, eatables and beverages which are highly popular because of their lip-smacking taste and sheer rarity.

5. Evidence of Success:

The Janapada Jathre is a much awaited event in the college which in itself is a measure of its success. The appreciation of the Janpada dance forms and music has increased as is evident from the manner in which students perform these dances frequently even in other cultural events. This is change from the usual dances performed to popular film songs, fashion shows, etc.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

There is no dearth of human resources for this event as students vie with each other to participate in it. The event is organized with institutional funding. But the festival gives an opportunity for students to sell items like foods, clothes, jewellery, etc and make decent profits. It is a form of “earn while you learn” process.

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